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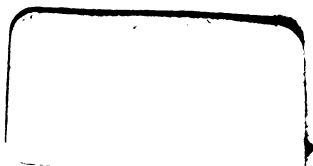
**WOMAN'S ARCHIVES**

Gift of

**Mrs. Frank H. Hughes**

**In memory of her Mother**

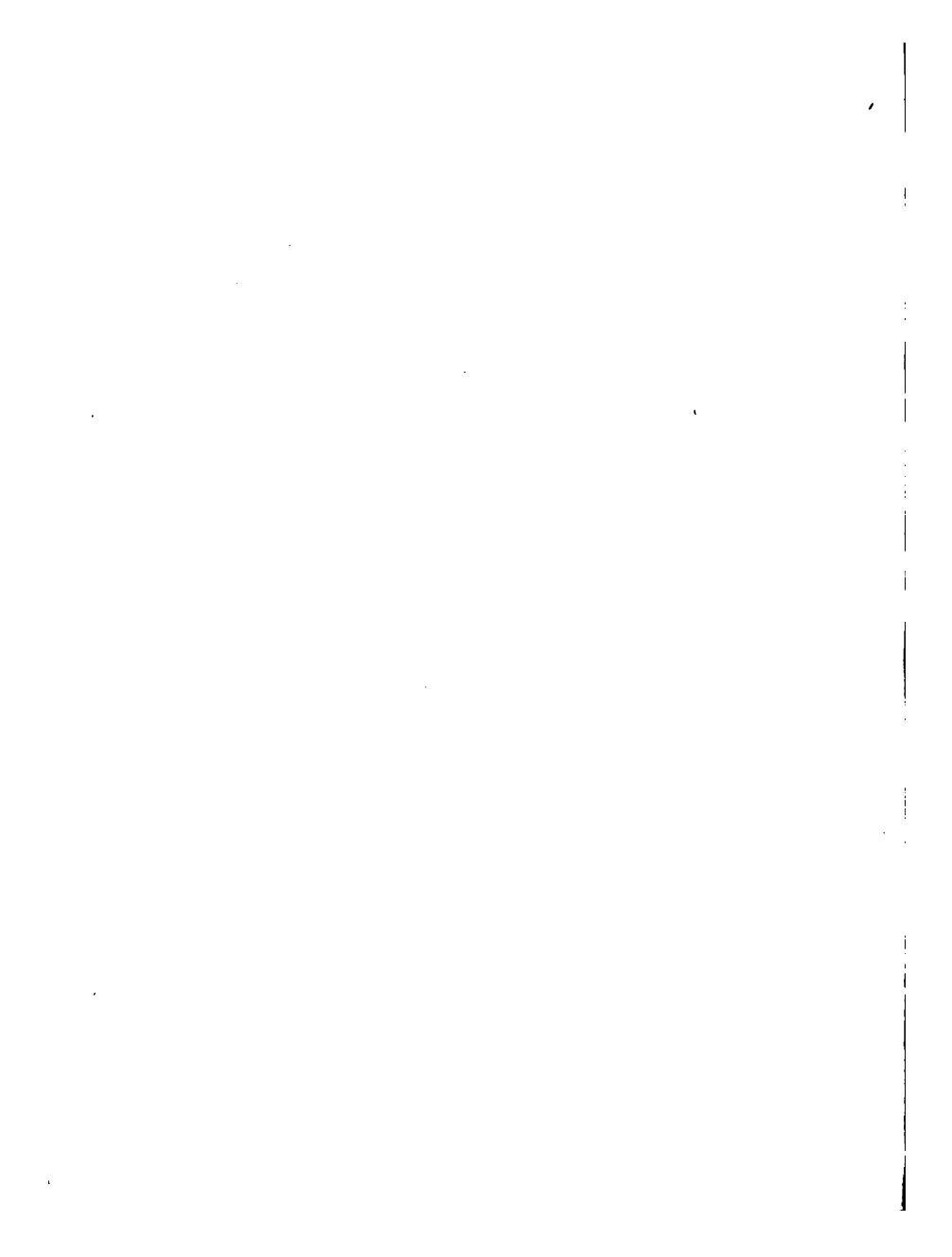
**Mrs. Charles T. Sanford**











**GLIMPSES OF A POPULAR MOVEMENT**

02  
07  
**SKETCHES OF THE W. C. T. U.  
OF PENNSYLVANIA**

10

BY

**FANNY DuBOIS CHASE**

**ONE OF THE FIRST VICE-PRESIDENTS OF THE NATIONAL, FIRST  
PRESIDENT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA W. C. T. U.,  
AND PRESIDENT FOR SIX YEARS**

1899

**T**O the many thousand women in this State and Country,  
who have so bravely and untiringly waged the peace-  
ful war of the White Ribbon Host, for a quarter of a cen-  
tury, this Jubilee Souvenir is lovingly dedicated by their  
comrade,

FANNY D. B. CHASE.

178  
W86c

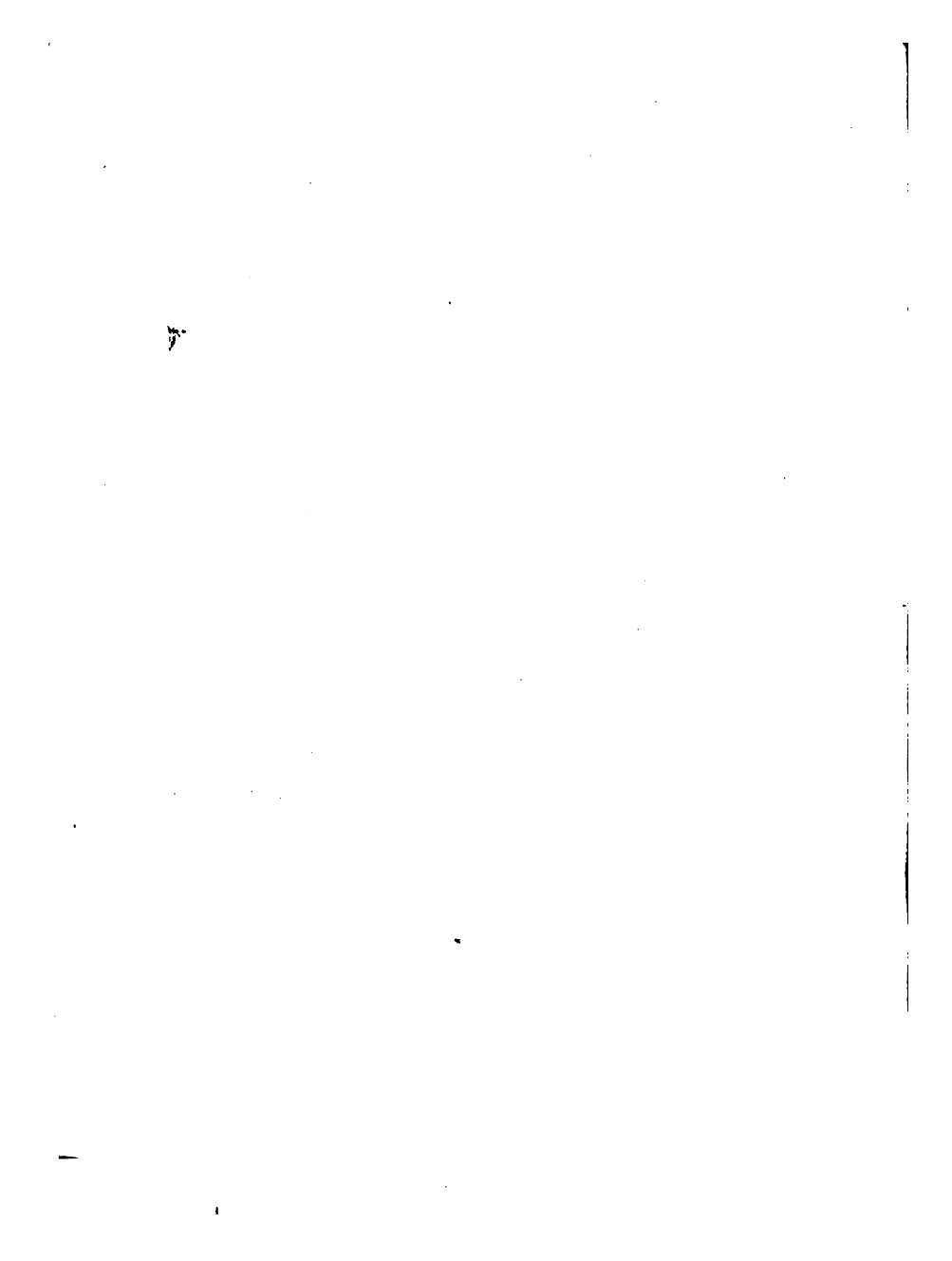
The Leeds Press  
817 FILBERT ST.  
PHILADELPHIA.

9717  
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Frances Willard



## PREFACE

THESE sketches were originally published in the *Bulletin*, our state paper, and were designed to include only the earlier stages of our work.

They were continued and finished up to the present date, and compiled in book form, at the suggestion of Miss Willard, who, at our Harrisburg Convention, strongly urged that this should be done.

They are by no means a complete history of the work of the W. C. T. U., but only glimpses here and there of a remarkable "woman's movement" in the interests of home and humanity, by one who has watched its progress from the notable "Ohio Crusade" up to its present world-wide power.

In no other movement in this country has there been such a blending of the moral influence and prayers of all denominations and sections; such a union of forces to plan, pray, and work for the redemption of our country from intemperance.

It is a movement worthy of the Christian civilization of this day, which seeks to destroy debasing, dangerous and evil customs hoary with age, and covered with the precedence that selfish indulgence in them for centuries has given them. We believe that the W. C. T. U. will sweep on with its beneficent work to certain victory.

At the beginning of the publication of these articles, Frances E. Willard wrote me the following characteristic

letter, which is greatly prized for the encouragement it gave, and the hope for the future so sweetly expressed, and to which her going home has added tender significance.

“ 186 COMMERCIAL AVE., BOSTON, MASS.

January 12th, 1895.

MRS. FANNY D. B. CHASE :

My ever dear sister :

Let me send a line of loving thanks and appreciation of your sketches in the *Bulletin*.

The last one that came into my hands I sent to our dear Mrs. Youmans, who will not long be with us, and to whom I felt sure it would bring a ray of comfort in her pain.

I remember, beloved comrade, those early days when we were true yoke fellows, and I believe that in heart we are just as much so now, and shall be through all the climbing ages of the life to come.

Pray remember me to your dear family and my comrades, and believe me always and ever tenderly thine,

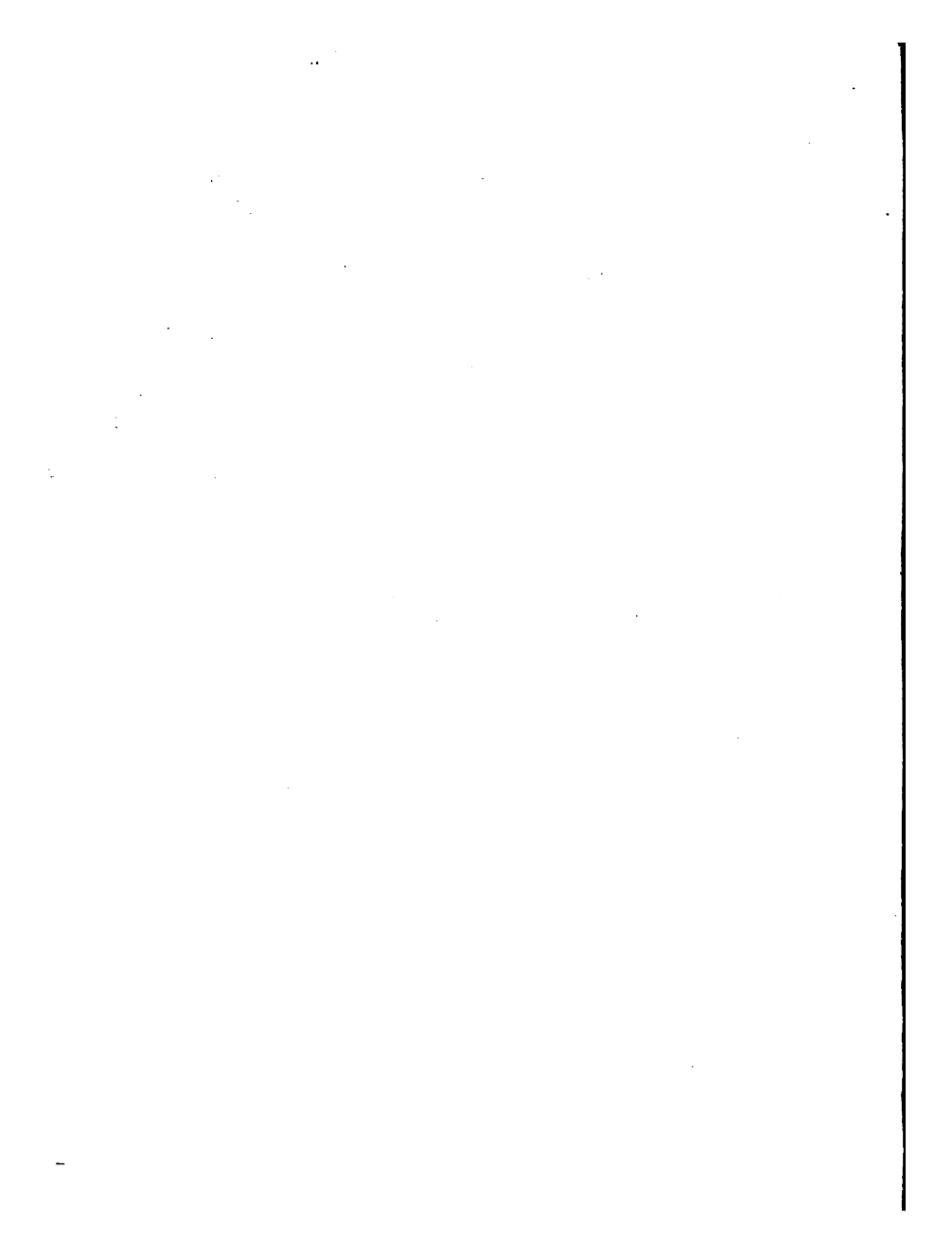
FRANCES E. WILLARD.”

FANNY D. B. CHASE.

Hallstead, Pa., August 1st, 1899.



MRS. FANNY DUBOIS CHASE  
State President from 1874 to 1879 and 1880 to 1881



## INTRODUCTION

“OF making many books there is no end,” yet, there is room in the book world and in the hearts of those who love God and their fellowmen for this book of remembrance written for the White Ribbon women of Pennsylvania.

The State of Pennsylvania has ever borne an enviable and a conspicuous part in the making of American history.

The reformer, looking back over a hundred years and more of Pennsylvania's illustrious past, sees no event fraught with greater blessing to mankind than the giving to the world, in 1785, the celebrated essay by Dr. Benjamin Rush, of Philadelphia, entitled, “The Effects of Ardent Spirits on the Human Mind and Body.”

This well directed blow at the drinking usages of society coming from so distinguished a man, as Dr. Benjamin Rush, marked the real beginning of the temperance reform movement.

Of all the forces that have appeared, during the century, on the field of the temperance reform, none has made a better record than the Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

This year we celebrate the Silver Anniversary of the organization of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Pennsylvania.

“ Twenty-five years since the bell out-rung,  
 Twenty-five years since the song was sung,  
 Twenty-five years since the tainted air  
 Of the hall of death  
 With its poison breath

Its drunken revel and fell despair  
 Was smitten through by a woman's prayer ;  
 When love and pain under holy spell  
 Asked for their own at the doors of hell !”

A quarter of a century has rolled by since the White Ribbon regiments of Pennsylvania volunteers marched to the front to battle for God and home and native land. Untried recruits they were and bearing but indifferent arms, but their hearts were true and their courage undaunted. Bravely they entered into action. Courageously have they withstood the shock of battle and endured the long siege ; patiently have they kept their holy vow of enlistment and have verified, time and time again, the assurance that “ the angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him and delivereth them.”

In these reminiscences of twenty-five years of heroic struggle one sees what it means to be a soldier in the White Ribbon army of the Lord. This story of long forced marches on short rations ; of going into battle with scant supplies of ammunition ; of lonely night watches and the loss of comrades, already encamped upon “ fame's eternal camping grounds,” is of value to both toil worn veteran and young recruit.

This story of a quarter of a century of active field service is ably told by one who was for many years the wise, capable and intrepid leader of the Keystone forces. Much credit is due Mrs. Fanny D. B. Chase for her faithfulness in preserving these records and for the happy manner of giving them to the White Ribbon women of Pennsylvania, whose love and loyalty, faith, hope and courage have made this bit of human history.





MRS. A. C. LAW  
State President from 1879 to 1880



And the rest of the acts of the Christian temperance women ; their sacrifices and sufferings and how they fought not for conquest and empire but for the homes of the Commonwealth, are they not written in the book of life ?

It has been said that, the women's movement is of the sublime. It took up arms for the recovery of the holy sepulcher of slaughtered hopes and joys, peace and purity, life and love. It was woman's holy, tearful, passionate pleading against the outrages of the liquor traffic. It was the pent-up agony of centuries finding a voice in woman's prayer and protest. It was born amid the inspirations of the hundred and forty-sixth Psalm and God was in it.

The campaign may be long but trusting in God the women of Pennsylvania will endure to the end.

“ Be of good cheer ; your cause belongs  
To Him who can avenge your wrongs,  
Leave it to him, our Lord.  
Though hidden now from all our eyes,  
He sees the Gideon who shall rise  
To save us, and his word.

As true as God's own word is true,  
Not earth or hell with all their crew  
Against us shall prevail.  
A jest and by-word are they grown ;  
God is with us, we are his own,  
Our victory cannot fail.”

ELLEN HOWARD LACY.

Warren, Penna., August 7th, 1899.

*The following Circular was adopted at the State Convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Pennsylvania, held at Philadelphia, March 10th, 1875.*

## CIRCULAR

The importance of imparting a correct temperance education to children, can scarcely ever be over-estimated. We should commence at the foundation and teach the young and pure not to meddle with that which ruins many, and will help none.

The nursery must be carefully cultivated; as the right and best place to secure recruits for the temperance work. Interest the children in the temperance movement, and they will become attached to the cause, and in a few years we will have an army of young men and women who will stand in our places when we are no more.

Remember, temperance children will make temperance parents.

Boys become men, and men become voters.

We are anxious to restore the blighted flowers and fruits; but slow to prevent blight and decay. The very basis upon which we should build our structure is almost entirely ignored.

Can we expect, ought we expect to succeed, so long as we neglect the highest interests of the children?

To reform the inebriate is a noble work; but to fortify against all needs of reform is a more efficient, much more noble work.

With Christian philanthropists the Sunday School movement outstrips all others. The Sabbath School work for them is what the Juvenile work is for us.



**MRS. FRANCES L. SWIFT**  
State President 1881 to 1889

Vertical line on the right side of the page.

Small horizontal mark at the bottom left.

The age in which we live, has generally caught the idea, that true reform must rest its corner-stone in childhood.

Our Lord himself recognized the importance of childhood, and gave it the first place in his gospel.

Therefore, be it resolved, "That we urge upon every Pastor and Superintendent throughout our State, the importance and privilege of organizing a Youth's Temperance Society, auxiliary to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, to be conducted in such a manner as is deemed best for the cause of temperance.

A meeting of the Children's Union, shall be held once in three months, at which meeting we request the attendance of the auxiliaries, and also a report for the same.

All churches organizing such societies will immediately report to the Corresponding Secretary of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Pennsylvania, who will send notices of quarterly meetings.

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*Pres.*, MRS. F. D. B. CHASE, Great Bend, Susquehanna Co., Pa.

*Sec'y*, MRS. REV. A. L. POST, Montrose, Pa.

*Cor. Sec'y*, MRS. ANNIE WEICHMANN, 1620 Cherry St., Philada., Pa.

*Treas.* MRS. ELLEN M. WATSON, 112 Smithfield St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

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## LIST OF DELEGATES TO THE FIRST W. C. T. U. OF PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA

Mrs. Mary C. Sayre .....	} Montrose, Susq. Co.
Miss Emily Blackman .....	
Mrs. A. J. Dietrick.....	} Williamsport.
*Mrs. J. F. Nice.....	

Mrs. Spencer.....	}	Chester Co.
Miss Carrie Poole .....		
Mrs. M. E. Hyatt .....		
Mrs. L. C. Flint.....	}	Warren.
Mrs. Wm. Lindsay.....		
Mrs. A. Safford .....	}	Luzerne Co.
Mrs. H. H. Stevens.....		
Mrs. F. Wolfkill.....	}	Sharon.
Mrs. A. P. Hamilton .....		
Mrs. T. C. Murphy.....	}	Norristown.
Mrs. E. K. Gunsenhouse.....		
Mrs. E. L. Brubaker .....	}	Women's Union of Harrisburg.
Mrs. E. L. Bryant.....		
Mrs. Julia A. Griggs.....		
Mrs. Hannah W. Smith .....	}	Philadelphia W. C. T. U.
Mrs. Harriet S. French.....		
Miss Caroline Remington.....		
Mrs. Rev. E. E. Swift.....	}	Allegheny City W. C. T. U.
Mrs. Holden.....		
Miss Hannah E. Davis.....		
Mrs. S. B. Chase, (F. D. B.).....	}	Great Bend, Susq. Co. W.C.T.U.
Mrs. J. A. Warner.....		
*Mrs. J. B. McCreary.....		
*Mrs. Harriet Duff .....	}	Woman's Temperance Alliance of 15th, 16th and 17th Wards, Pittsburg.
Miss Sadie Wilkinson .....		
Mrs. Wood.....		
*Mrs. A. W. Black .....	}	Allegheny Co.
Mrs. S. C. Matchett.....		
Mrs. E. S. Jope.....		
Mrs. George Bingham.....	}	East End, Pittsburg.
Mrs. Hubley.....		
Mrs. J. H. Campbell.....		
Mrs. M. J. Allan .....	}	Temperance Alliance, 22nd Dis- trict, Pittsburg.
Miss L. A. Haller .....		
Mrs. S. F. Alben.....		
Mrs. M. A. Richwine.....	}	Praying Band, Philadelphia.
Mrs. Yard .....		
Miss C. Jones .....		
Miss I. Newton Peirce.....		

\* Deceased.





MRS. MARY H. JONES

State President from 1889 to 1892 ; Vice-President-at-Large 1885 to 1889, 1892 to 1895 ; Recording Secretary 1880 to 1884



# Reminiscences

OF

## Temperance Work in the W. C. T. U.

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### CHAPTER I.

#### HOW ONE WOMAN CAME TO BE A WHITE RIBBONER

**T**HE shadows of a dull gray evening were closing around us in the early Winter of 1873, as we sat by our fire-side gloomily thinking of the seeming failures of many temperance movements and societies, which seemed at that time to be moving slowly, as if broken-winged or worn out in the unequal conflict against the rapidly increasing liquor traffic, and its awful outcome of intemperance.

The National Temperance Society and Publication House, to which the cause owes so much, was keeping the "even tenor of its way," and was surely but slowly advancing; the Good Templar organization which promised so grandly, because of its chivalrous recognition of woman as equal in its government, had just been separated into opposing fractions by the race question; and the sky of the Temperance Reform seemed as overcast with clouds as the sky without. We were sadly asking, what next? When and where is the remedy? for there surely must be one for a wrong so great. Just then my husband asked, "Have you seen the account of the crusade of the praying women in Ohio?" We answered indifferently that we had not. We were inclined just then to distrust all temperance movements, old or new.

When, however, we listened to the startling story of the Crusade, a gleam of new hope shot across the cloud of our discouragement, leaving so bright a track, that it has never

grown dim. It was a prophecy to us, at once, of better things to come, a foreshadowing of what this new departure was to be to humanity—to womanhood.

We welcomed it with thanksgiving; endorsed and believed in it from the first; because its foundation was in prayer and faith.

Great epochs seem to burst upon the world unheralded; not so, they are the culmination of forces long at work. Some one has been studying; some one thinking, devising, believing. And lo! a discovery that brings a new era, a revolution. So, great reforms, coming like sudden sunshine from the clouds to humanity, are the outcome of long study, and endurance of wrongs to be righted, until someone, touched and inspired to action, stands out a light amid the darkness, and lo, God has sent a leader and opened a way.

Such an epoch was the Woman's Temperance Crusade in Ohio. The tears, the prayers of broken hearts, the suffering and wrongs of childhood under the drink curse, the helplessness of woman to protect her home. All conspired to bring about, such an uprising, such appeal to Heaven, such a comradeship of suffering, faith and prayer, as the world never witnessed before.

It was timely, expectant hearts waited for this signal fire of hope, and answering fires were kindled far and wide. "In six months," says a reliable outside historian, "2,500 saloons had been voluntarily closed by their proprietors, and in 250 towns every saloon was closed." What days those pioneer days were, only those who engaged in the Crusade can tell.

When, in continuation of the first inspiration to action, the clear-sighted, consecrated leaders issued the call for the Cleveland Convention, we said as we read it, we must be in



**MRS. ANNA M. HAMMER**  
State President from 1892 to 1897



that first convention of temperance women, if possible, for our sainted mother's sake, who was one of the first at the time of the Washingtonian movement to banish wine from her sideboard and home, and lift a total abstinence banner over her household under which every one of her nine children were proud to rally and abide by.

We fully believed also, that the loyal enlistment of every woman who loved the sacred interests of home was needed, to repel the worst enemy the home ever had ; so we began to get ready, with absorbing enthusiasm, to go to Cleveland.

## CHAPTER II.

### THE UNIQUE CONVENTION OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

The usual anxiety about a journey, what one should wear, was dominated in our preparations to go to Cleveland, by the more important one of being clothed with proper authority to enter the charmed circle of the convention.

A county convention solved this problem for us, by electing Mrs. Carrie W. Cook and ourself delegates to Cleveland. By the way, were not those first county conventions after the Crusade, as wonderful, in many respects, as the Crusade? I know, many whose hearts God stirred to attend them, will remember with misty eyes and grateful souls, the sheen of the morning brightness that rested on them, and the surprising way in which those who had not known each other before, came into unity of purpose and power. What a broadening and clearing of spiritual vision came to them! How the darkened world grew brighter, and the onward way more hopeful!

From hundreds of these county meetings the elected women went up to the greater meeting at Cleveland, with a fresh chrism of the Holy Spirit on their souls.

Early on the 18th of November, 1874, a chilly autumn morning, we arrived in the "City of Beautiful Homes," and were met at the station by a committee of young men wearing blue ribbon badges, who were our guides to the church where we met a committee of Cleveland ladies, among whom we well recollect the kindly face of Mrs. Sarah K. Bolton, and that of her husband, who later chaperoned us to our first convention home.

The young sons who so courteously cared for the delegates arriving at so many stations, and often at unseasonable hours, had a part in this new temperance movement, as well as the daughters who found for us our Crusade Psalm. All honor to them.

To describe the unparalleled assemblage of women, that organized the W. C. T. U., is beyond our power; no pen or eloquent speaker has ever done it justice. There is doubtless a measure of fact in the legend current in our home, that we were so absorbed in this meeting, that all the news received at home from us during our absence was a postal inscribed "Arrived safely, the convention is glorious." Glorious it indeed was, and no one can explain its power and influence, save to say that God was in it.

The personnel of this gathering of women from all parts of the country, except perhaps the extreme South, was remarkable.

We wrote of it in 1874, "one can have little conception of the enthusiasm and consecration of the noble leaders of this movement, unless they have visited the scenes where the conflict began and where its first conquests were won."

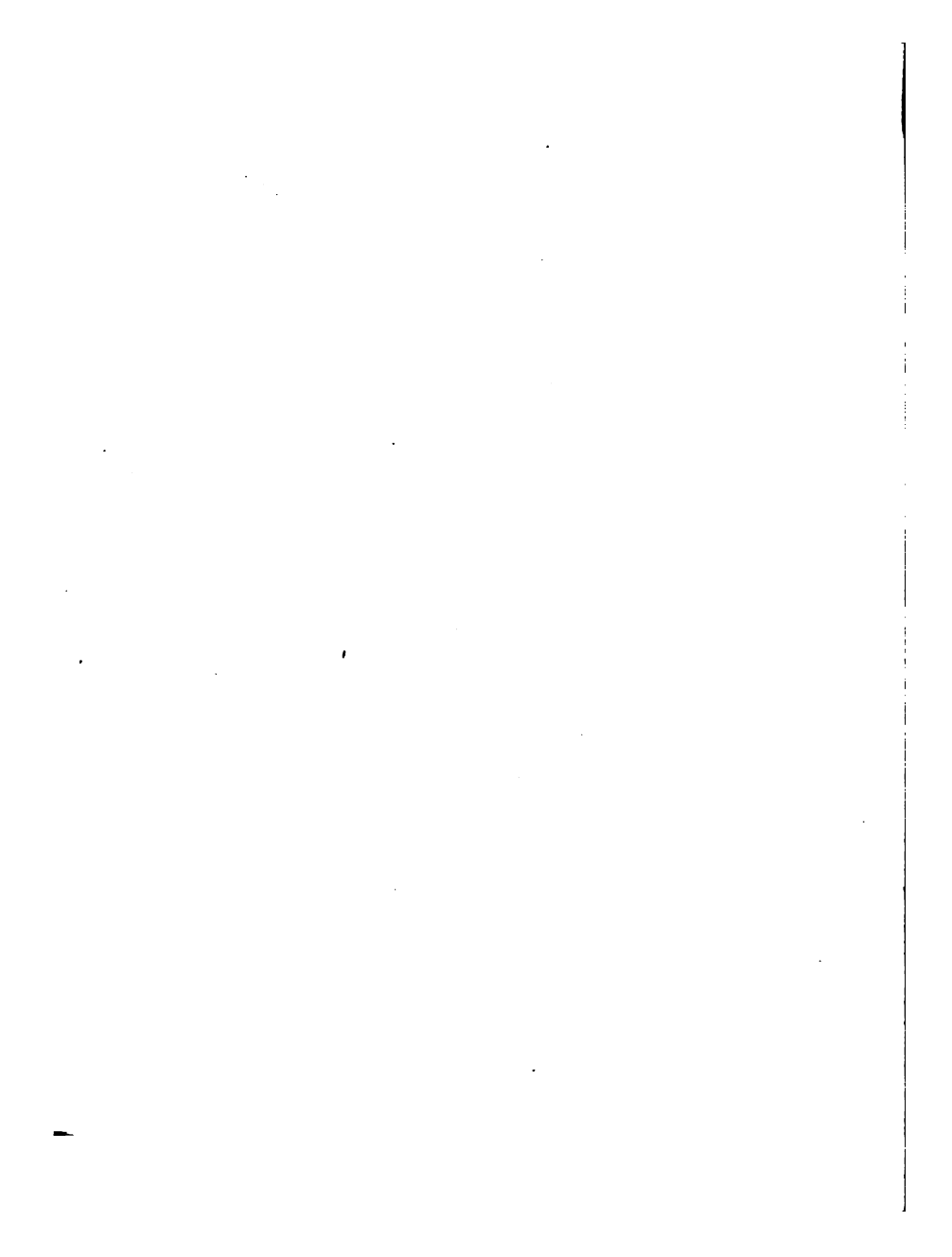
There were in this convention women with snowy hair, framing faces of rare intelligence and beauty; stately,





*Rebecca Ballard-Chambers.*

State President ; elected 1897.  
Corresponding Secretary 1892 to 1895



dignified, elegant ; matrons and their daughters, young women full of enthusiasm and devotion ; Quaker women, forceful in word and deed, whose faces brought to mind the words of a hymn " So calm, so cool, so bright " ; brusque, go-ahead, large-hearted Western women ; impulsive, warm-hearted delegates from the Middle States ; out-spoken women from the Pacific shore ; women who had been imprisoned for praying in the streets, who had been surrounded for hours by howling mobs ; women with silvered hair, who through storm and sleet, had knelt upon icy pavements to sing and pray, because of their desire to stay a wrong that was eating at the very vitals of home and the government, and had become unendurable. Is it any wonder that as we looked into their faces, we felt something of that sacred awe, that one does when coming into the presence of One who has been on the mount of prayer ?

" And once more mingles with us meaner things,  
'Tis erst, as if an angel shook his wings."

The work was new, but a hand was found for the helm in Mrs. Jennie Willing, who controlled the large assembly well, and won golden opinions from all.

Organization was speedily effected by the choice of officers as follows :—

Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer, President ; Mrs. Mary Ingham, Treasurer ; Miss Frances E. Willard, Cor. Secretary ; Mrs. Mary E. Johnson, Rec. Secretary ; Mrs S. K. Leavitt, Asst. Rec. Secretary and a Vice-Pres. for every State represented.

We met here many of those who have since become leaders of National reputation in the W. C. T. U.

We well remember the first time we heard a sweet, resonant voice behind us, speaking in clear cut, incisive sen-

tences, and turning, had our first glimpse of the slight form and earnest face of Miss Frances E. Willard.

There was something in the spirit of this meeting that disarmed prejudice, that kindled a consuming fire in the midst of old conservatisms and preconceived ideas of woman's power to do and to be for her home and native land; womanhood was moving out of the shadow of discouragement and indifference, into the sunshine of new purposes, and the transition was a revelation of her power that astonished the world.

### CHAPTER III.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE W. C. T. U.

At the Cleveland Convention each State delegation made nominations for Vice-President, to be at the head of the work in their State.

The Pennsylvania delegation honored us in this election, and it became our duty to rally the interested women of this State to a more perfect organization. We issued the call and sent it broadcast over the State. A goodly host responded, and came to Philadelphia from all parts of the State, each section seeming to have sent its best.

From the preliminary meeting in the evening to its close, this convention had such spiritual power as made us realize how much prayer had been offered for it.

Mrs. Hannah Whitall Smith had written me her great anxiety that this meeting should have its beginning in "a whole-hearted surrender to God to be used by Him in this temperance work," and we believe there were many such surrenders that have made Christian lives more efficient and powerful all over our State, in this work. The W. C. T.



MRS. HANNAH WHITTALL SMITH

\_\_\_\_\_

U. of Pennsylvania was born and has been nurtured in prayer and consecration.

As we read again the messages that came to us in 1874 and 1875, we are tempted to linger lovingly over the early life of our State unions.

These records recall the many faithful ones who "lent a hand" in the days of our inexperienced youth.

We would like to mention every one, their names should have place in history, but as in this work, the cause has been esteemed above the individual worker, so all will rejoice if the influence and power of the work has supremacy in these writings.

It was not without trepidation and doubt that the committee of arrangements took up the task of preparing for this first Woman's Temperance Convention, in the City of Phila.

The call had been issued and we thought the way clear, when a member of the committee wrote us doubtfully, about the prospect of securing entertainment for delegates. "We had thought," she writes, "that we might shelter one hundred, but your circular opens so wide a door, three from a place are too many."

"We want you to come, but you must know we are a limited circle. We cannot pay for a speaker who resides outside the city, that's certain, we cannot have a mass meeting, the masses won't come. Hope this letter will not be a wet blanket."

A few days later the same person wrote, "Throw away that wet blanket, I wrote under discouragements, I had not been out to try. Now I have a different story to tell. Our people will be only glad to have you come and will entertain."

The Ohio Crusade had its bitter assailants. We can hardly realize in this day of our success, that a learned divine

should ever have characterized that crusade as an "onslaught upon the saloons with a travesty of prayer," and as "clean contrary to the Word of God."

For do we not remember how mightily that "word" has grown in our hearts, in all the subsequent outcome of those wondrous days; when a tidal wave of prayer and action against a prevailing evil swept from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Lakes to the Gulf.

It is remarkable how few mistakes were made in organizing a work so new, and how strangers of different sects were able to plan so harmoniously, so wisely and well.

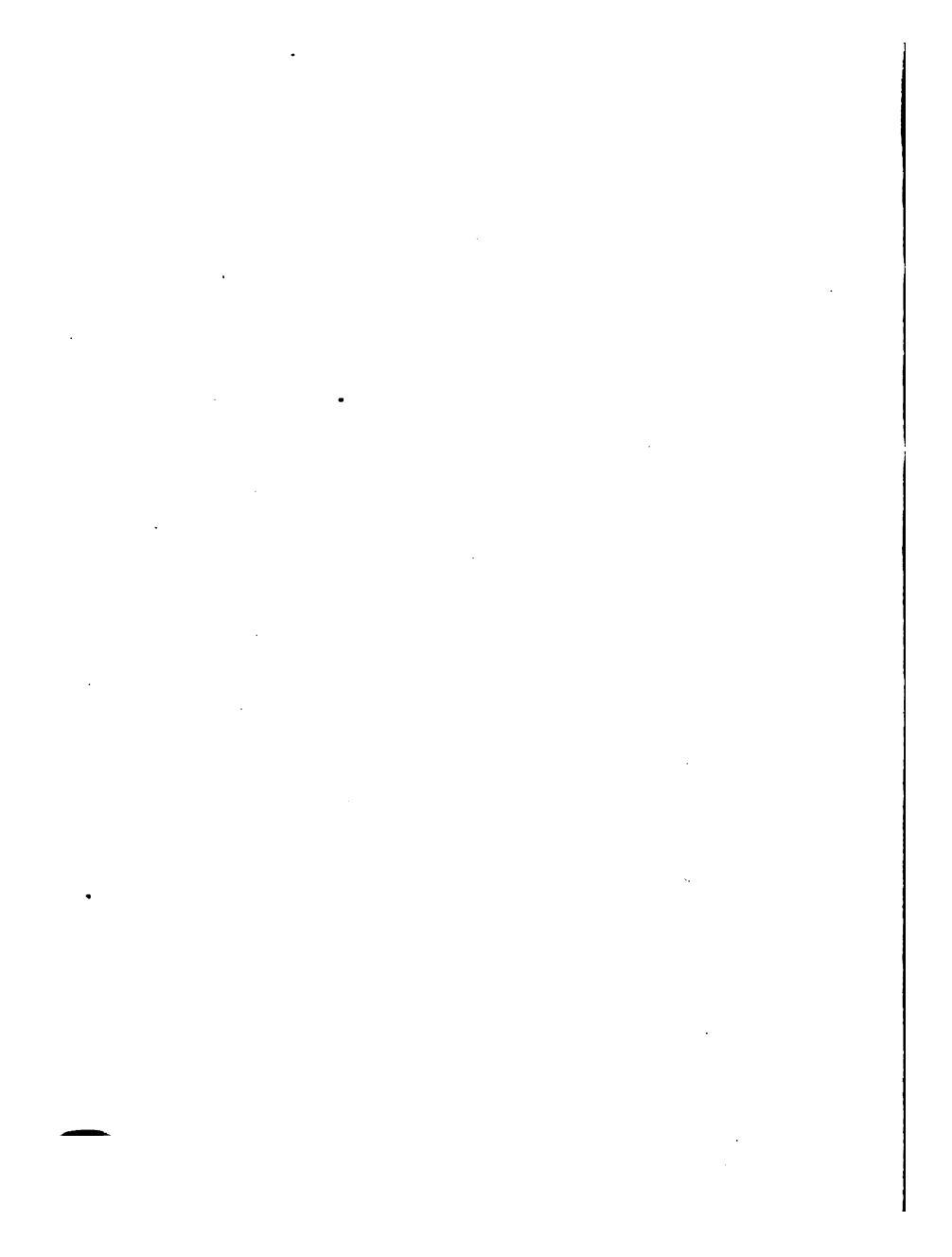
A noted divine said of this work in its beginning, "How kind, earnest and fervent were the measures put forth; how wonderfully free from indiscretions;" and so they were, so much so that the grand structure has developed to its present proportions on our first well laid foundation.

The Philadelphia Union, and others throughout the State, had already been doing good work, and their experience was a basis for our wider planning. Miss Frances Willard, then Corresponding Secretary of the National W. C. T. U., had written, at our request, a letter for the convention, which was full of helpful suggestions. Mrs. Wittenmyer, the National President, was with us, assisting and giving counsel. We had an able committee to arrange the business of the convention in Mrs. Harriet French, M. D.; Mrs. Harriet Duff, Mrs. A. G. Dietrick, Mrs. J. A. Warner, Mrs. Swift. All these conspired to give strength and wisdom to our planning. It will be seen that Dr. French had a part in this first meeting, and has helped to stir up, keep in good humor, and doctor every convention since, much to the health and growth thereof.





HARRIET S. FRENCH, M. D.



The officers elected were, Mrs. Fanny D. B. Chase, President ; Mrs. Ellen M. Watson, Treasurer ; Mrs. Annie J. Weichmann, Cor. Secretary ; Mrs. A. L. Post, Rec. Secretary ; Mrs. Dr. Hatfield, 1st Vice-President.

We were organized by Congressional Districts, and a Vice-President for each District.

The four best things inaugurated at this first meeting were the Bible Readings (we were privileged to have Mrs. Smiley and Hannah W. Smith with us), the devotional hour, the Sunday-school and Juvenile work. The first circular on these last was presented to this convention for approval, by the Philadelphia Union. This was most fitting, since one-fifth of the Sunday-school work of the State is done in that city.

What we should have done in those early days without women trained in Good Templar Lodges, who had made some study of Parliamentary usages, and our Quaker and Methodist women who had not been taught to keep silent in the churches, we do not know. They had to be our talkers. Many of our women, now so strong in word and deed, came slowly and, with a struggle known only to God and themselves, to the point where they could speak or offer prayer in public.

A gifted woman whom we know, when attending her first W. C. T. U. Convention, called for a chair that she might sit while speaking, in order not to seem unwomanly !

In this large venture for home protection, the women who loved home best were the first to lay aside personal preference, and enter heart and soul into a work which meant trial at every step. The injunction, " Better stay at home," had lost its power before the fact that the enemy would not

let the home alone, but from some ambushade of the Government fired its keenest arrows among home treasures. Having taken the work in hand there could be no turning back, and can be none, until the liquor traffic lies slain at the feet of indignant motherhood.

The following petition presented by Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer, was adopted, to be presented to the Pennsylvania Legislature: "To the Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania: We the women of Pennsylvania, in convention assembled, knowing the fearful evils of intemperance that already prevail, and fearing that the repeal of the 'Local Option Law,' will open still wider the floodgates of crime, do earnestly and solemnly protest against the repeal, and we ask that a committee from this body, who will further represent us, be received and heard."

The following ladies expressing their willingness to go and take the petition, and speak and work against the repeal of the "Local Option Law," were appointed, viz.: Mrs. F. D. B. Chase, Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer, Mrs. J. F. Nice, Mrs. H. H. Stevens, Miss N. M. Wells, Mrs. Henry Warner, Mrs. J. S. Collins, Mrs. L. C. Kint, Mrs. E. K. Gunshouser, Mrs. Harriet H. Duff, Mrs. J. H. Campbell, Mrs. Wm. Lindsey, Mrs. M. C. Sayre, Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Dr. A. W. Black, Mrs. Alex Matchett, Mrs. E. S. Jope, Mrs. Julia A. Briggs, Mrs. E. L. Brubaker, Mrs. E. S. Bryant, Mrs. Dr. Hatfield, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. R. F. Wolfkill, Mrs. J. A. Pierce, and Mrs. Dr. Murphy.

#### CHAPTER IV.

#### OUR FIRST EXPERIENCE IN LEGISLATIVE WORK. VISIT TO OUR STATE CAPITOL.

In the development of our W. C. T. U. plans, we were



MISS H. FRANCES JONES  
State Corresponding Secretary ; elected 1895



constantly confronted with unexpected situations. This call to go to Harrisburg, in the interest of righteous legislation, was one of them. It was a trial of courage and a test of faith, but still the solemn duty of the hour, which the sacred interest of home and humanity demanded. Doubtless at that period it may have seemed rather outside woman's sphere, but in reality it was the timid plea of womanhood for better recognition. It was a first step toward her rightful heritage of a voice in the legislation that provides for home protection.

"There is always something new arising that tries one and must be prepared for," said Mrs. Wittenmyer as she looked out of the window of our room in Harrisburg the next morning after the close of our State Convention. We thought she spoke a little wearily and wondered if even her courageous soul did not shrink from the task we had undertaken.

It was a novel sight in the capitol city of our State, this procession of mothers and wives filing into the State House, to protest against the repeal of a law that had closed so many dram-shops and restored peace to so many households.

We had a hearing before the "Committee on Vice and Immorality," and were also received by Governor Hartman, who cordially greeted us and gave us gracious audience. His elegant and courteous manners will never be forgotten nor his evident emotion as he greeted this unusual delegation from the homes of the State.

Having stated the object of our visit and our interest in retaining the law which had worked so well, we introduced the National President, who made an eloquent plea. The stalwart Governor leaned against the mantel and tried to appear unmoved, but grew a little nervous as the plea proceeded.

His guarded reply was that "when this Bill came to him for his Signature, he would give it his careful consideration." We have thought that this expression of the women of the State moved him then to save the law, but political situations often seem imperative to politicians, and later on the repeal was accomplished, with the Governor's approval, and a law wiped out that was bringing peace to households and in its short trial was reducing crime in the counties where it prevailed ; so much so, that in some courts the criminal calendar was so much lessened, that it required only two days session, instead of two weeks as formerly.

A mass meeting was held in the House of Representatives in the evening, at which a number of our ladies spoke, and in our inexperience and enthusiasm, we left the city feeling that we had saved the law ! but, alas ! we were unlearned then as to the power of the saloon in legislation. We are wiser now, and know that results in temperance work are achieved by long and patient processes.

## CHAPTER V.

### THE PIONEER YEAR OF OUR STATE WORK.

The pioneer year of our State work was largely one of experiment and getting acquainted.

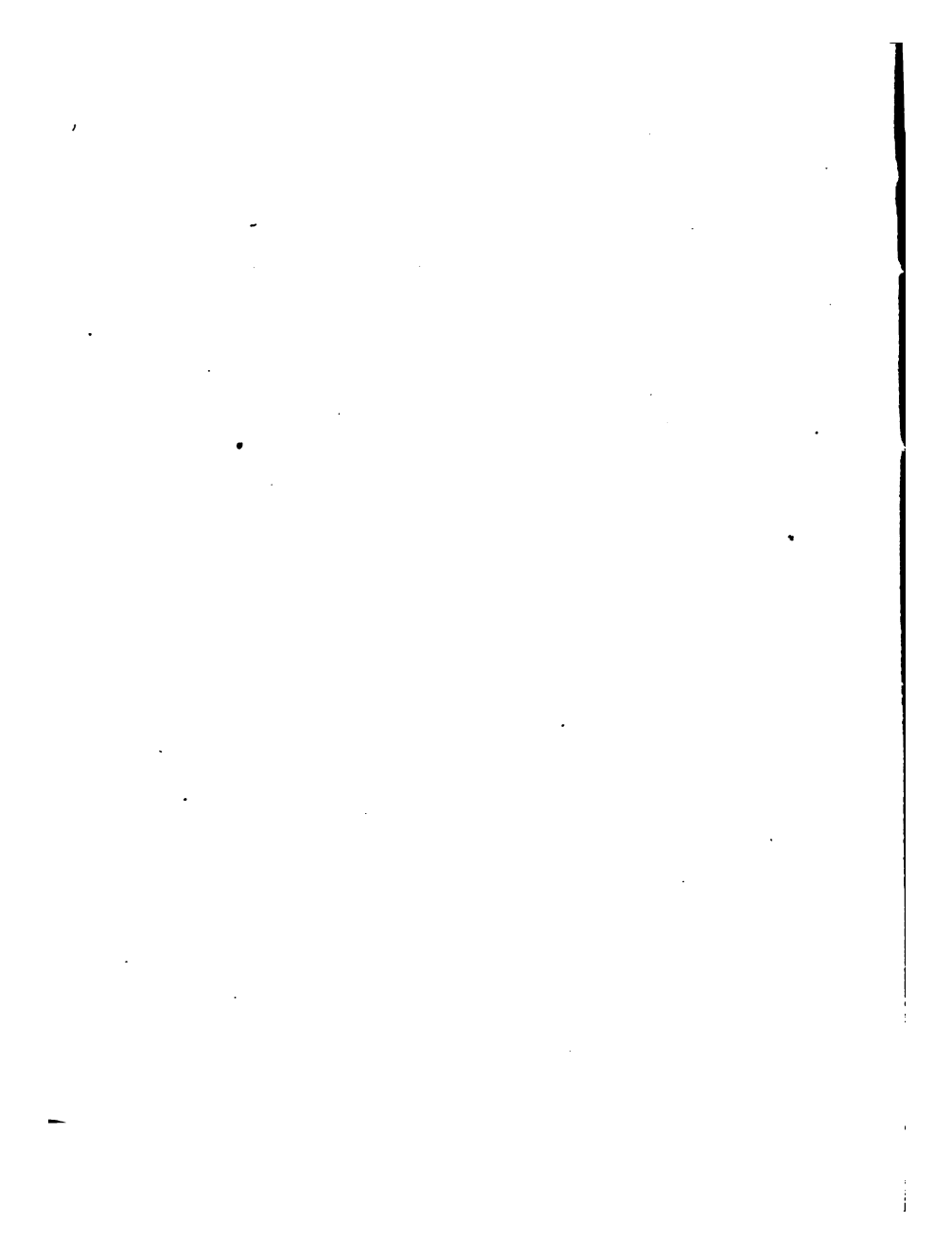
Willing hearts and hands were ready ; but how best to employ them ?

Our unions were composed of busy home women, whose souls were stirred by the breath of new interest, and the fire of kindling enthusiasm. But they were unaccustomed to strict business methods. It took time to remember that letters must be *dated* ; that in answering them conciseness and promptness were desirable. How often we had to





MRS. OLIVE POND-AMIES  
State Recording Secretary, elected 1889



search amid pages of advice, domestic information, and the failures of others to do their part, before we could find the coveted reply to important questions, and sometimes the search would be altogether in vain.

We were always glad to know of the home life, we women never get away from that bond of sympathy ; but we must have questions answered, if work goes on smoothly.

During this year advice and criticism were free, and if, as Mrs. Wittenmyer said, "criticism makes us strong," we acquired strength rapidly. After the meeting at Harrisburg, a good woman wrote me, "One thing we must be very watchful about, and that is, letting ourselves speak in public places. I don't think anything was gained by *any woman* who spoke at the Capitol. The only good was that it was a warning at the commencement of our State work."

We did not heed the warning, and hundreds of these best women have laid aside such prejudices, relics of a semi-barbarous time, and are hastening on a better civilization of equal freedom.

There were many adventurers through the State, asking for our official recognition as lecturers, and some of us were imposed upon. A lady from Williamsport wrote, "I have expended one hundred dollars in temperance work this year, and spent all the hot months entertaining temperance tramps, and I am discouraged." No wonder! But this was a part of the price paid for knowledge, and by experience we learned a better way.

Indeed, the privilege of being in the work was by some esteemed so highly, that a prominent woman wrote me, "If ——— cannot give her money, and her time, she should not accept an office."

We were organized by Congressional districts, a President for every district, as we now have for counties. Our treasury was not overflowing, and Mrs. Watson, the efficient head thereof, proposed that "Every woman elected from the districts to convention should pay part of her own expenses, and, if she did not like it, she could make everyone else take their turn, before she had her chance again." Everything hinged on the *privilege* of doing. Was it not beautiful, albeit rather primitive?

We have said that we did not make many mistakes, but we did make one in agreeing at Philadelphia to send fraternal delegates to conventions of temperance societies, not our own, which were held in Chicago and Sea Cliff, without knowing about our funds, paying their expenses to these places, crippled our State work for the next year. But courage and hope were at the front, and our second convention at Williamsport was a good one. We were not able to publish a report, but the press of Williamsport gave such full and courteous accounts that we were able to secure a good report for our scrap book.

At this convention we passed a resolution on Sabbath Observance, and on representation at the approaching Centennial, and to give our support to the National W. C. T. U. Fair, then in process of preparation.

Our individual, regular gifts, as members, have been so abundantly blest of God, we have been brought into so much closer sympathy with the work and its needs, by this more consistent method, that we are not dependent on fairs and catch-penny devices. We bring to the service our own free-will offerings, which we believe are more acceptable to God



**MRS. FRANCES T. WOODS**  
**State Treasurer, elected 1882**



## CHAPTER VI.

THE SECOND NATIONAL CONVENTION, HELD AT CINCINNATI,  
OHIO, 1875.

“ The wind that blows can never kill  
The tree God plants :  
It bloweth east, it bloweth west,  
The tender leaves have little rest  
But any wind that blows is best :  
The tree God plants  
Strikes deeper root, grows higher still,  
Spreads wider boughs, for God's good will  
Meets all its wants.”

These words come to mind afresh as we think of the present.

The recent Convention in Cleveland, (1895) of the W. C. T. U. in the strength and glory of its majority, with Frances Willard, in her gracious dignity, still at the helm, who could witness it, who can read about it? without moist eyes, and such thankful joy, as only those can know, who stand in the midst of hopes and ideals more than realized.

Such harmony and unity, such broadening purposes for the future ; such devotion to the higher interest of a work so great ; was it not most wonderful? Could not many say as they enjoyed the delightful sessions of the meeting :

“ Is this the peace of God, this strange, sweet calm?  
The weary day is at its zenith still,  
Yet, 'tis as if besides some cool, clear rill,  
Through shadowy stillness, rose an evening Psalm.”

As we rejoice over all our progress towards the best and highest, we take up some letters of the long ago. In one written us just after the first convention in 1874, by Mrs. Mary B. Ingham, of Cleveland, who was chairman of the committee of arrangements for the first National Convention, these far-seeing thoughts are recorded.

“ This new temperance movement must be a fair, square, open theory—a great democratic temperance society with Christ as its leader—so long and so broad that it will embrace the whole world. Prayer must be its watchword.”

The new movement from the first took into its primal thought and action the whole world, as at the first convention it appointed a committee to prepare a circular letter to the women of foreign lands.

The next letter is from Frances Willard, then Corresponding Secretary of the National, who was just about to make a tour of the Central New York, Buffalo and Erie M. E. Conferences. She said in it :—

“ I am anxious that Pennsylvania, the Banner State of the Centennial, should stand out prominently, by reason of its ‘ Woman’s Christian Temperance Union,’ as committed to a *second century*, more noble even than the first one, in which spiritual slavery shall be abolished, as physical slavery has been in our own century ; also that this purpose and prediction should be put on record in some palpable symbolic form.”

We do not know if this prediction has ever been put on record, but through eighteen years of the second century of our country we have kept it sacred ; noting every year how we sweep on to its fulfilment.

The world knows how untiringly the writer of this purpose has labored for its fulfilment.

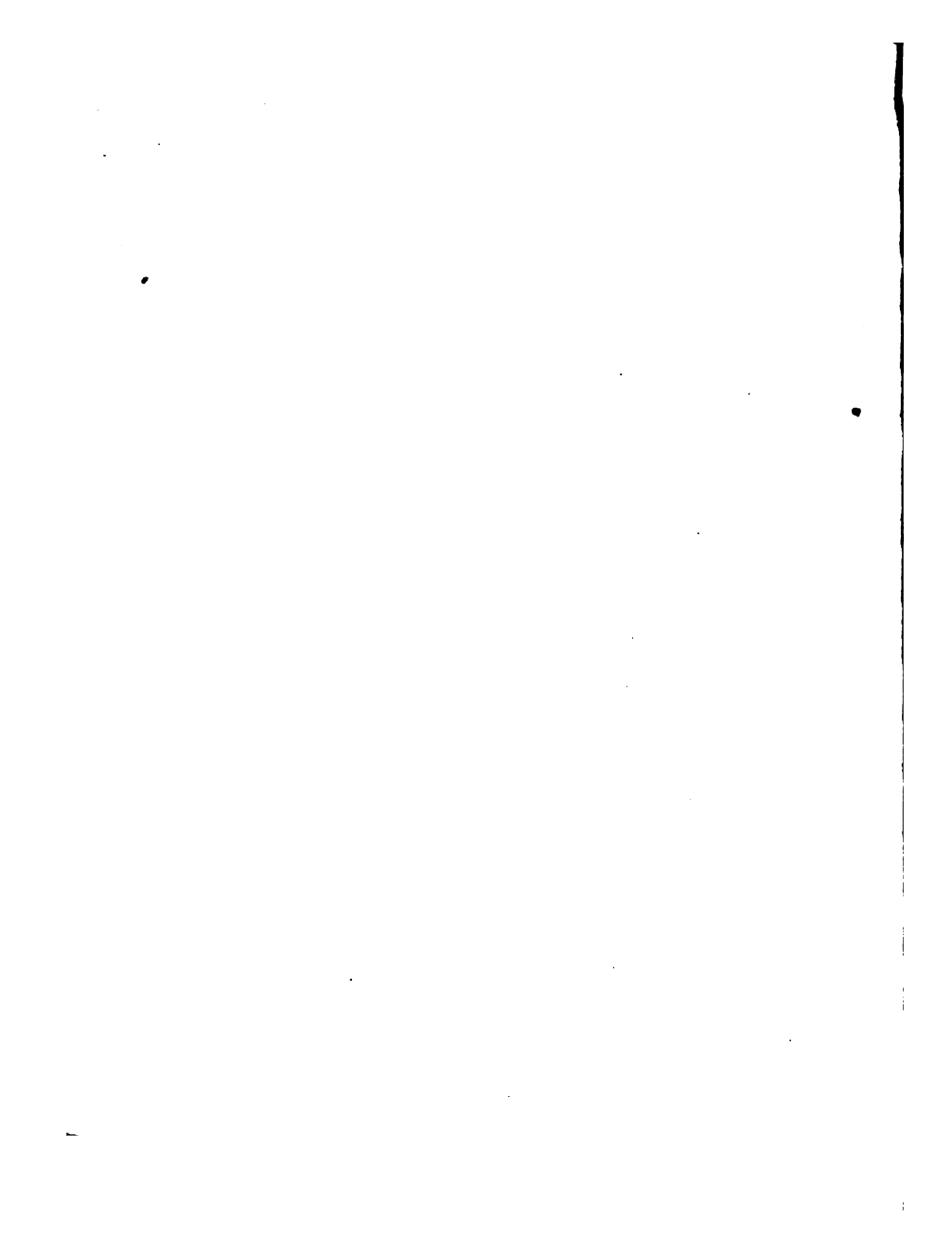
We largely owe our present status of womanly progress and attainment, in so many directions, to the fact that when Frances Willard took an advanced position, and knew it was right, no storms of opposition could move her from it ; while if she found that the position was untenable she has





**MRS. HENRIETTA H. FORREST**

Vice-President-at-Large ; elected 1898. Corresponding Secretary  
1889 to 1892



always, with womanly reasonableness abandoned it; thus linking with her in her royal purpose, the hearts of the W. C. T. U., as all our conventions attest.

"They are coming, they are coming! See how beautiful they stand!  
All their radiant banners gleaming, God and home and every land."

It seems like stepping back from sunlight into shadow to go back to the recollections of our Second National Convention at Cincinnati, but Mrs. Wittenmyer, the National President, wrote me enthusiastically:—

"It will be the greatest convention ever held in the world," and so doubtless it was at that time. It was remarkable for the development of new workers; a year had wrought wonders; untried wings had found strength to soar, women had found their voices in plea and prayer, in argument and solid facts, that were convincing.

Among the many new workers whom we remember tenderly, was Mrs. Youmans, of Canada. As we were on the committee to arrange the programme for evening, we were commissioned to invite this visitor to speak for us. We did so. She was a very large woman and appeared so diffident, that we did not urge the matter, but some one who knew her better secured her consent. She spoke after a number of speakers; among them Francis Murphy. The audience was weary, the hour late, but with a few tactful words she put them in good humor, and then combining eloquence, wit and logic in her own inimitable way, she electrified her listeners until weariness was forgotten in absorbing interest, and the speaker had established herself in the hearts of White Ribboners, and has ever proven an ally of power.

but a slight cloud was appearing on the horizon. Petitioning and remonstrating and pleading, opened many eyes to see that as women we had but little power in legislatures, courts or anywhere in the government and the unpopular fire of woman's suffrage had caught in the prairies of the West. It caused great alarm.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### A GATHERING CLOUD.

After the Norristown Convention an earnest effort was made to organize the State more thoroughly, although the financial depression hindered and circumscribed the ability of our unions to increase our funds ; but we issued a memorial to the legislature, sent out our first State circular on Fermented Wine at Communion, issued an official letter to the International Sunday-school Committee asking for a Monthly Temperance Lesson in their series, called an All-Day Prayer Meeting and introduced the subject of Systematic Giving to the unions. One union wrote, " We have a splendid program for our All-Day Prayer Meeting and all our ministers are coming in."

There is no question that in our early days, we thought to keep our work remote from all that even seemed to conflict with previous customs and habits of thought.

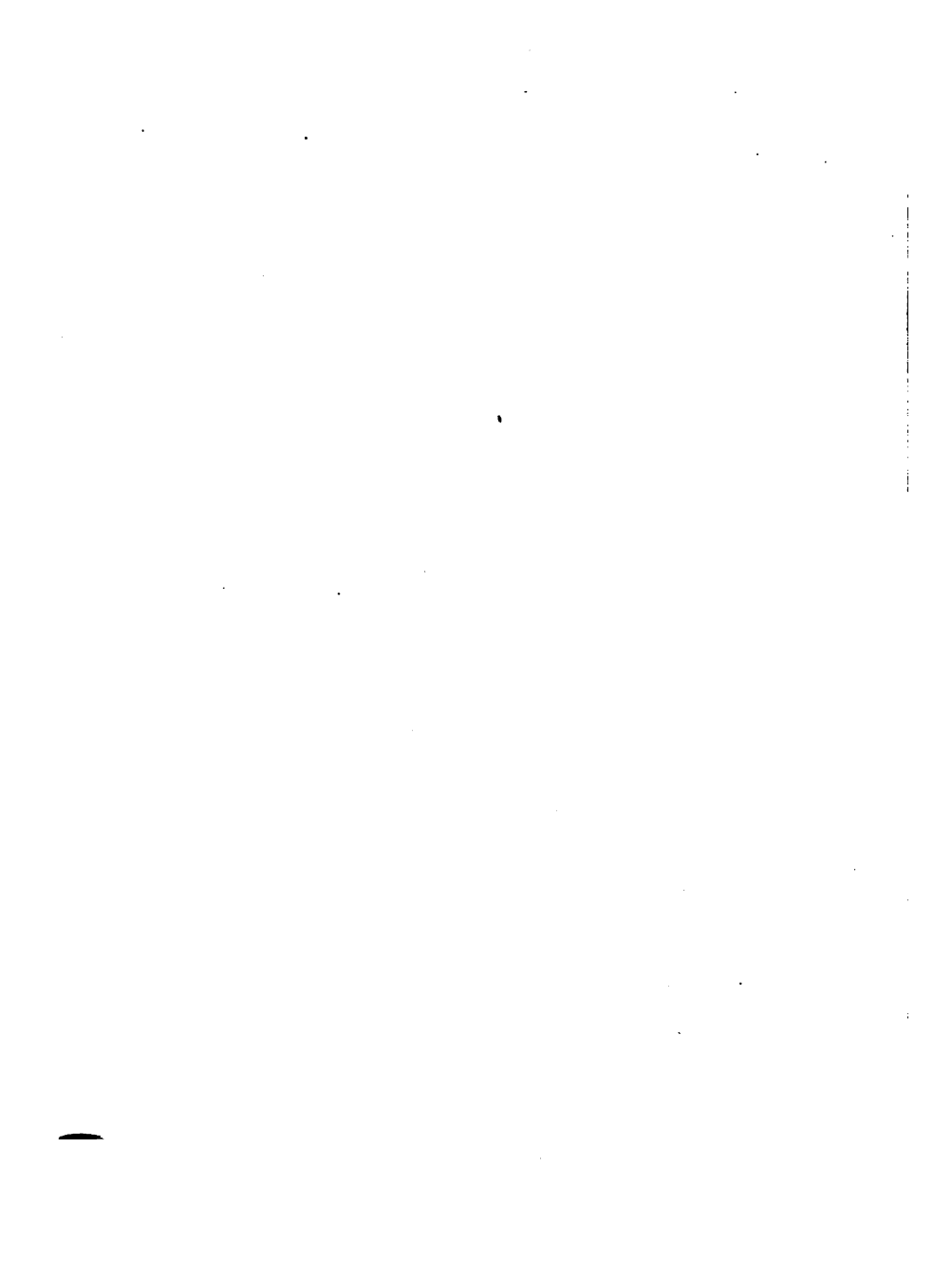
There were circumscribed limits to woman's efforts. Those who most loved true womanliness feared most to do aught that would seem to lower the standard thereof.

It is remarkable that two great movements in womanly effort should arise so near together : the women's Missionary movement in the churches and the women's Christian temperance organization.

It seemed to dawn suddenly upon the world that there



MISS A. ELIZABETH THOMAS  
State Y. Secretary



might be an element of barbarism in the customs that excluded woman from a voice in the work her willing hands had so long sustained, and in the limitations of her power to protect her home.

In the twilight of this dawning we gathered at Pittsburg for our fourth State Convention.

The whole western section had been aflame with the Murphy movement. Thousands were wearing the blue ribbon and the interest in reform work was at its height.

"The Convention did a good work here," wrote one. It was well attended. We were cautioned by a reporter, "not to let certain persons who were Prohibitionists, capture the Convention," but we saw no evidence of such intentions, and when in the evening we remarked that "unquestionably the ultimatum of all temperance movements was the total prohibition of the liquor traffic," the audience applauded; but prohibition was a word not often used then.

The "little cloud" referred to in our last chapter was enlarging and gathering blackness.

The policy of the National was to keep out all politics and woman's rights in our conventions. The unions were urged to "let these two things alone whatever private opinion might be entertained." "It will not do to give up the religious and womanly part of prayer and Christian work," as if in voting men had given up these duties.

Some of our conservative women seemed greatly to fear the "advanced Western woman." A good woman wrote me, "My opinion is if woman's franchise is admitted into our discussions, it will kill the paper, and divide the National Union." "I can but feel that it is the work of the devil to destroy our efforts, and protect his most potent

engine for the destruction of our race." Others had different views, and wrote : " If ever the world is better it must feel woman's moral strength." " We will never get woman's suffrage as long as the rum power holds sway."

Another wrote, " You may be sure I think that God is going to lead us to the polls to finish the work we have begun so nobly. He is going to show the world the grand spectacle of Christian voting. He is going to justify the vote by the agency of women. I believe firmly that it is God's call to us at the present moment. The women who respond to it are only the advance guard of the whole mighty host who will follow sooner or later, to the battle for the right in the new arena."

These extracts show what the conflict was at that time. To mention woman suffrage in our conventions was to flaunt a red flag ; but now, we are in a way to realize the prophecy in our last quotations, and franchise is an acknowledged department of our regular work. Only God knows through what struggles many a woman came to the light on this question.

At this convention at Pittsburg, Mrs. Annie J. Weichmann of Philadelphia, who was our first corresponding secretary and had served us three years, resigned and Miss Jennie Jennings of the same city was elected.

Mrs. Weichmann was a great help in those days. She had large experience as a State officer in the Good Templar organization ; was prompt and energetic in any duty assigned her, and brave in the time when it required courage to plan and work, with a limited acquaintance with our constituency and little money in our treasury.

We had sent out our printed constitution, a juvenile circular and State annual circular. Mrs. Weichmann gener-



ously proposed to bring a good lecturer into the State as organizer at her own expense, but our plans in this direction were not successful.

She secured the publishing of the minutes of our early conventions in the *Christian Standard*, the *Vindicator* and in Mrs. Wittenmyer's paper. She also attended the World's Temperance Convention in Chicago, and read an excellent report of it at our second convention.

## CHAPTER IX.

### OUR FIFTH STATE CONVENTION, 1878.

It seems to be a law of progress that tidal waves of thought and action should ever and anon sweep over the popular mind, lifting to new heights of enthusiasm, and then subsiding to the calm after-thought which is always in advance of former theories and positions.

Such a wave had been carrying all before it in the year succeeding the Pittsburg convention, and when we met for our fifth State convention, we were on the crest of this wave of temperance revival, known as the "Red Ribbon Movement," in the West, and the "Blue Ribbon Movement," in the East; the former led by Mr. Reynolds, the latter by Francis Murphy. Both of them had for their central thoughts the rescue of the inebriate and the formation of reform clubs for men.

Thousands signed the total abstinence pledge. Wonderful reformations took place among victims of the drink habit.

Mrs. N. L. Clark, State Recording Secretary, of New Castle, wrote: "My husband says, 'This is the most wonderful movement ever known. One thousand have signed the pledge. Who shall say that the women's supplications have not been answered?'"

Dr. French, of Philadelphia, wrote, May 2, 1877: "We are in the midst of great excitement. Murphy's meetings are crowded, and our W. C. T. U. prayer meetings are filled to overflowing. Men sign the pledge at the Murphy meetings, and finding their way to our meetings, are brought to Christ."

Many most pathetic instances occurred all over the country of the reformation of men long given up as lost.

The widespread temperance movement undoubtedly lifted the popular sentiment on this subject in this State to a higher plane than ever before, but it subsided, and the great sources of all misery and sorrow that men had thought to stay, still rolled their ceaseless torrents of evil over the State, opened wider their flood-gates of woe, and wrecked homes as before.

Although lending a helpful hand to all who suffer in mind, body or estate, has ever been the policy of our W. C. T. U. work, we believe this wave lifted us up to see that saving the victims of the evil liquor traffic, was secondary to efforts that would educate popular thought, to see the enormity of providing in our laws the possibility of such an outcome as a drunkard's life and death.

It was just here we think that the thought of woman's enfranchisement took deeper hold on the convictions of our earnest-hearted women.

Gradually we had been learning that we were neglecting an imperative duty in keeping politics and woman's rights out of our religious and temperance work, virtually separating, in our thought, our government from moral forces and responsibilities, and confirming what a distinguished congressman affirmed in an address not long since, when trying to avoid the temperance question, that "The government was



MRS. ELMA M. PRESTON  
State Secretary of the L. T. L.



organized for business, and not to adjust moral questions.”

It was with undiminished courage and faith that we met in Philadelphia for our fifth convention, and second in that city, October 30 and 31, 1878, convened at a time when financial depression had brought distress and want to some parts of the State. For this reason some of our districts were not represented, nevertheless we had a fair attendance, good reports, and extended notices of our meetings in the daily press.

We were working large districts, and the areas to be occupied by our standing committees and vice-presidents were too great to be thoroughly worked. The marvel is, that with our limited means and experience, so much was done.

At this convention we resolved on preserving our State Reports in printed form; and appointed a committee to assist our Recording Secretary, Mrs. N. L. Clark, of Newcastle.

Mrs. Clark thought 2,000 should be printed, but asks, “Where is the money to come from?” The committee resolved to print them and rely on their sale to pay expenses.

Mrs. Clark was a most busy woman in all church and home work, but with heroic zeal, she prosecuted this undertaking, until the first printed State Report of the Pennsylvania W. C. T. U. was an accomplished fact. In the ensuing July she wrote us, that nearly all the Reports were sold, and “that she expected to pay all the expenses at the close of the month.”

This report is not as voluminous as those of later date, but certainly was very creditable.

We were again the guest of Mrs. Hannah W. Smith, and we should be recreant to the most precious memories of W. C. T. U. life, if we failed to record the spiritual blessing



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This is the picture: "Among the group of remarkable women now assembled in Baltimore; in the interest of temperance, probably the most remarkable is Miss Frances Willard, who has been speaking to delighted audiences for the last few days.

"A slight frail physique is the earthen vessel which becomes before us, a swinging censer of spiritual fragrance; filling all the house, while she pleads temperance she intoxicates her hearers, her chief power is a rich and anointed womanhood, which she has the fine instinct not to abdicate, like 'Portia,' she stops gracefully short of intellectuality.

"With this sceptre she reaches out and touches every heart, and through this every brain and conscience, until we surrender to her spell. She is no orator, she does not 'saw the air' or 'tear a passion into tatters.' She does not make a great speech, a thing easily managed. This time we feel that the speaker is greater than the speech, and we marvel how that sweet, low voice and those quiet hands can play so skilfully with our heartstrings, as one 'who plays well upon an instrument.' She reveals something of the gift of improvisation and makes one think of that exquisite portraiture of 'Dinah' in Adam Bede—George Eliot's dream of a pure and saintly woman."

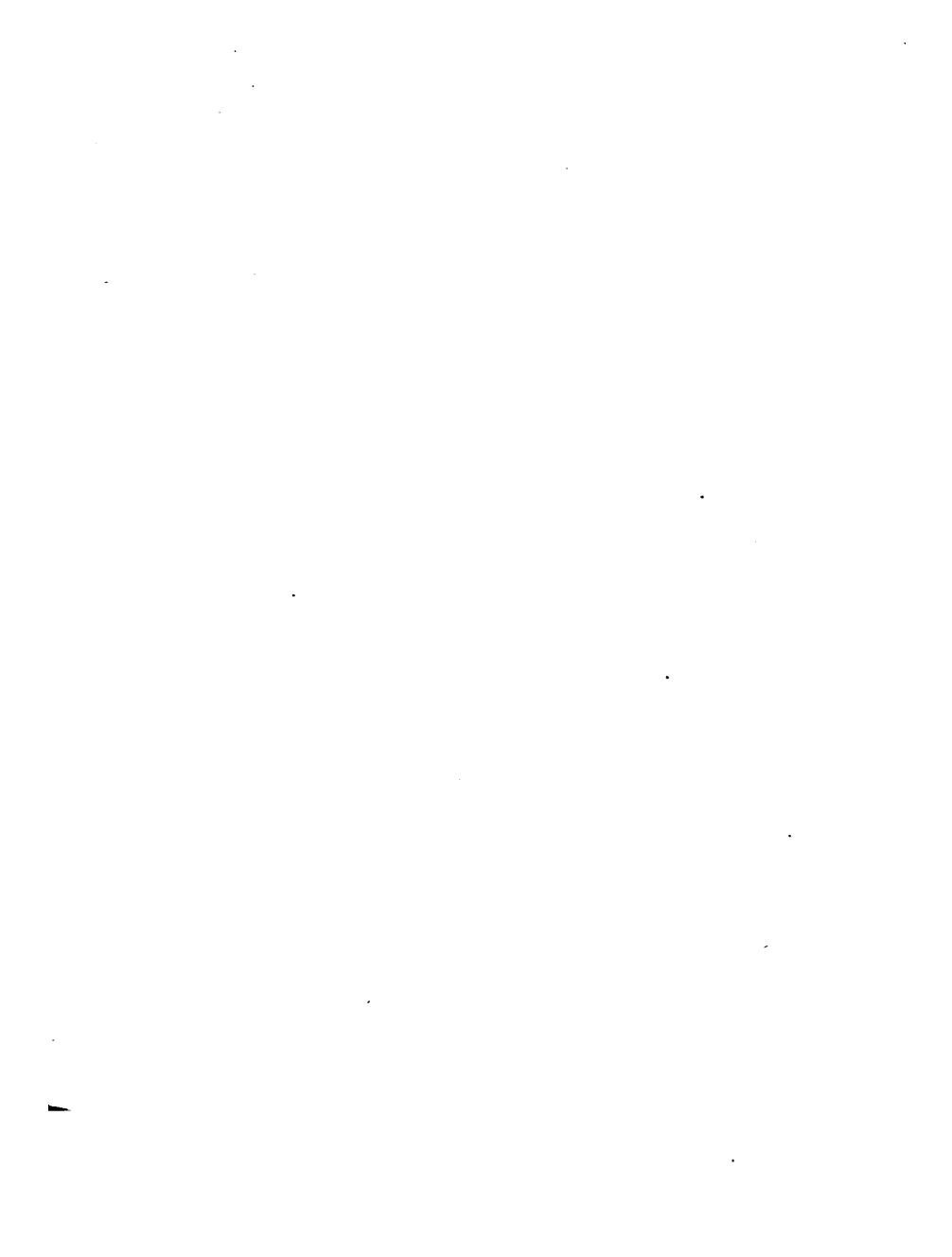
At this convention it will be remembered that a beautiful silk quilt, pieced by the Ohio women, having on it the autographs of three thousand women, was presented to Mrs. Thompson, the leader of the first crusade.

In the centre of it is sewn a prophecy, not to be opened until 1976. We do not believe the prophecy will begin to portray the advance that will be made, progress has already been so far beyond our most sanguine dreams.





C. WESLEY BURNS  
State President I. T. L.



One of the most pleasing reminiscences of this year was a week spent at the National W. C. T. U. Camp Meeting, at "Lakeside," on Lake Erie, the second one ever held.

The Executive Committee of the National had entire charge of all the meetings. The first meeting held on the lawn outside the little Chapel, led by Mrs. McCabe, of Ohio, was the keynote of this week of meetings.

Already the four years since the crusade had developed the latent talent and power of Christian women in our country to a remarkable degree.

Mrs. Lathrap, Miss Willard, Mrs. Youmans, Mary T. Burt, Miss Esther Pugh, Mrs. Robinson of Indiana, Mrs. McCabe of Ohio, and others formed a galaxy of helpers and speakers around Mrs. Wittenmyer, that made the five or six meetings that were held daily, full of power and interest. Of Mrs. Wittenmyer, the National President, who presided over them, it was said that, "She had seen fifty years of life, but had performed in that time a hundred years of labor, that is, she has done twice as much as most women have done at fifty. In the war she piled up heroic deeds, on the field and in the hospitals."

These meetings stirred that section of the country, and 400 drinking men were said to have signed the pledge. It was here that we first heard that the new revision was to render Psalm, 68, 11, "The Lord gave the word and great was the company of women who published it." Coming in from a meeting one day, Mrs. Wittenmyer said to us, that she had learned that it would be so rendered. Most of us were incredulous, Mrs. Youmans shook her head doubtfully, Mrs. Lathrap smiled and said, "Don't let your enthusiasm run away with your judgment," but we all hoped it was true.

The Fourth of July, a cloudless day, brought a wealth of good things. The addresses of Miss Willard and Mrs. Lathrap were unique and inspiring, as well as all the exercises. Mrs. Lathrap's sermon on Sunday was a treasure to be kept. This was our first experience of a Woman's Temperance Camp Meeting. It had the charm of novelty and was full of sweet surprises, that will linger long in memory. Mrs. Burt said in her closing address: "Oh, this beautiful place, with bright waters, fresh grass, green trees, and singing birds, and such a company, and dear friendship and holy work." But words always fail to gather up the charm of these last things of life, all their inspirative and goodly influences, but memory is not limited thus.

It enshrines the best and feeds upon it for a lifetime.

While we entered upon the year 1879 hopefully, there were still clouds that obscured our prospects in the division of sentiment on suffrage. Our letters of this year have in them many forebodings; but the good work did not lessen.

## CHAPTER XI.

### OUR SIXTH CONVENTION AT SCRANTON, 1879.

Our convention held in Scranton, had its surprise; nevertheless, the hand of the Lord was plainly with us, and personally we recall it with great pleasure, as to spiritual profit and delight in many ways. A conservative lady, whom we had asked to prepare a paper on suffrage, exploded a little bomb in our midst, when she declared that in her search of the subject she had been converted, and proceeded to read a radical paper full of trenchant arguments in favor of woman's having the franchise; but it harmed no one, although some were frightened, and hastily moved that it be "laid on the table."



MRS. SAMUEL CLEMENTS  
Supt. Evangelistic Work



Mrs. Clark related an incident that was not only gratifying, but has always seemed to us an augury of future usefulness, a precedent for the history made in so many parts of our State in later days.

During her canvass for the sale of the Reports, she gave one to an intemperate man, who stood leaning on the broken gate of his wretched home, who said he was too poor to pay even ten cents for a book.

"I will give you one, John, if you will promise me to read every word of it," said Mrs. Clark.

"As it is you, Mrs. Clark, I will," was the reply.

A few weeks later he came to see her; at first she hardly knew him, he was so changed for the better.

"Why John, how is this, you look like another man."

"So I am! I read that book you gave me, and the reading of the annual address by Mrs. Chase, President, was the means of my conversion."

And Mrs. Clark said that he had become a consistent member of a Christian Church, his home restored, his house and premises trim and neat, his family well-dressed and happy, all through the instrumentality of the first published report of our Pennsylvania W. C. T. U. Surely this redeemed home well paid for toil and loving sacrifice.

At this Convention, Mrs. A. C. Law, of Philadelphia, though not in attendance, was elected President.

Mrs. Mary C. Burt, of New York, whom we first met at the Cleveland Convention, and with whom we have been associated in our work several times since, was the speaker of the evening.

For a time it seemed as if the franchise question would divide our State Union, but we were carried through the

storm both in State and National ; and, as we look back, we can plainly see that " a hand was on the helm," other than human.

The questions that have come to the front in our work, seem to have been the unfolding of that which was in the movement from the beginning, and no efforts to repress could hinder the growth and expansion of the same.

The questions of purer government, protection for the home, the conservation to virtue and sobriety of childhood as a future factor in our religious and political life, and equal interest of men and women in the policy of our government, were clearly discerned in the addresses and writing of that period.

" Save the Children" was an early watchword. Our first State circular had those words for a heading. One of Miss Willard's early addresses in Farwell Hall, was an eloquent plea for the " Ninety and Nine who went not astray," and closed with these words : " Now vote, and may God deal with you as you deal with these little ones."

One of our most conservative women wrote approvingly in reference to an election where the temperance question was involved. " Everything began and ended in prayer, but when election day came the ladies secured the best legal advice and learned all the legitimate tricks of successful politicians, and, while depending on God to defeat their enemies and lead men to vote right, they worked as hard as if He were left out of the question."

A prominent author and publisher in an editorial said, of this work : " It is the offspring of a grand religious impulse which gives to our times its one superb touch of heroism and relieves it from its political debasement."





MRS. A. F. BRYCE  
Supt. Franchise



Another philanthropist and authoress wrote: "The whole question of the liquor traffic is controlled by votes, and the women who want to control it and the men who want them to do so are one and all women suffragists. They may not know it, may not believe it, but it is true."

There were no published minutes of 1879, save those published in Mrs. Wittenmyer's paper and the reports of the press.

## CHAPTER XII.

### THE SEVENTH CONVENTION AT HARRISBURG, 1880, ALLEGHENY, 1881.

Our next annual meeting was held in the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, offered to us by Governor Hoyt. Owing to the absence of the President, Mrs. Law, and also the Recording Secretary, Mrs. Clark, the convention lacked the motive power of a well-prepared program.

Mrs. Fanny D. B. Chase was again elected President, and Mrs. Mary H. Jones, Recording Secretary.

The officers elected to serve were quite at sea, but the convention was successful. Important discussions characterized it and some important changes were made in our laws.

Mrs. Jones entered at this time upon her official career in the W. C. T. U., which still continues. Called at this session to act as secretary for the first time, she proved equal to the unlooked for emergency. The minutes were kept so correctly and so plainly that they were ready for the printer without mistake or revision. She was elected to this office and has been a State officer in various positions ever since.

Our next State Convention gave to us our gifted and cultured Mrs. Swift, of Allegheny City, and we gladly resigned the reins of our State work to her hands. We

cannot say that perfect harmony prevailed. There was honest difference of sentiment. The situation was somewhat anomalous. The division that had been prophesied did not seem pronounced; there was a disposition to concession, and yet the president's address and a paper following, which Mrs. Dr. Gause had been asked to prepare, were not in accord. In truth, the majority were in a state of transition, and we could not clearly define our new positions.

The election of a president in the Western part of the State did much to unify and stir up that section to more earnest action and bring the East and West into more sympathy. We were all learning how to do practical work and were beginning to know each other as members of the W. C. T. U. At this session after six years service as President, we were appointed to the S. S. Temperance work as superintendent and entered upon a new field, which position we have held ever since.

The time, and growing sentiment of the franchise question, give significance to the following extract from the President's closing address, above referred to, and the poem it elicited, both of which Mrs. Jones had printed in leaflet form, and sent out to all the Unions.

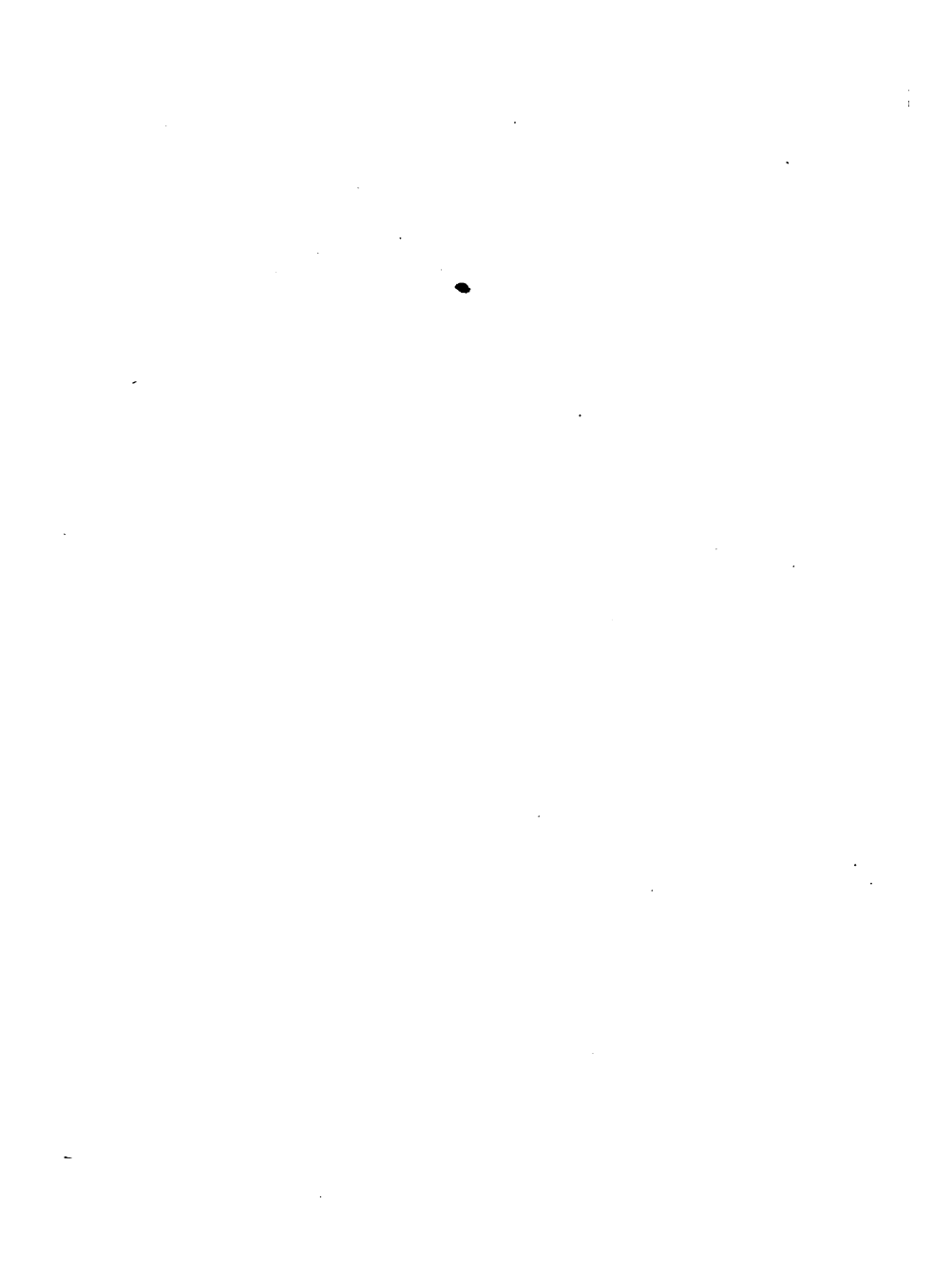
FROM

MRS. F. D. B. CHASE'S ANNUAL ADDRESS.

“ You remember when that terrible scourge, the Yellow Fever, was raging in Memphis, and all hearts fainted under its continued terrors, how one night, beneath the silence of the stars, the *frost* descended in millions of pure white globules and covered all the city—God's great panacea for all their woes—and how, in the early twilight of the morn-



**MISS PUELLA DORNBLAZER**  
Supt. Work Among Foreigners and Miners



ing, we are told, the inhabitants of that city 'threw open wide the doors and windows to gaze, with glad eyes, upon the welcome tokens of deliverance, and, going out, kneeled down and gathered up the shining, beautiful messengers of God's mercy, as the Israelites might have gathered the manna upon the plains of Arabia, and, lifting them towards heaven, with sobs of grateful joy, exclaimed, 'thank God the frost has come !'' So, methinks, that in the not distant future, God's remedy for the drink scourge shall come, and, whether it shall come by this way or that, whether by a struggle like that for our national freedom, or, later, for our civil government, or whether by the noiseless descent, in the purified atmosphere of a better civilization, of millions of pure white ballots from woman's hand, in that glad morning of our freedom we shall lift grateful hands and hearts to heaven and thank God that deliverance has come."

### THE PESTILENCE.

BY MRS. KATE THROPP PORTER.

Over the perishing city,  
Tortured with fever and pain ;  
From the steadfast skies above it  
Fell the blessed, pure white rain.

From many a darkened chamber,  
From many a stricken home  
Came forth the glad hosanna—  
" Rejoice, the frost has come ! "

From anxious watchers, clinging  
To those they feared were lost ;  
They knew that there was healing  
In the white touch of the frost.

Frail women, worn with weeping,  
Strong men and children fair,  
In the rosy light of morning  
Knelt on the ground in prayer.

The pitying father's tenderness  
 Their troubled hearts unfold ;  
 Hope's angel smiled on them serene,  
 Her white wings touched with gold.

But a darker plague is resting  
 On this mighty realm of ours—  
 From the bleak hills of New England  
 To the southern land of flowers.

And anxious hearts are watching  
 Through the long and dreary night—  
 They are longing, they are praying,  
 For the coming of the light.

Their loved ones toil in prison cells  
 (Their sons that they gave birth) ;  
 They mourn above dishonored graves,  
 They crouch by fireless hearths.

The little children cry for bread  
 To hearts rum turned to stone ;  
 And suffering women bear the cross  
 Of want and shame alone.

But still the night broods darkly :  
 Will the warfare never cease ?  
 We are waiting, we are longing,  
 For the messenger of peace.

But ere the dawn of promise  
 Shall roll the clouds away,  
 Will the white frost of the ballot  
 Fall from their shadows gray ?

At the portals of the future  
 We knock, with trembling hand ;  
 Beyond, sunned by eternal love,  
 Unfolds the promised land.

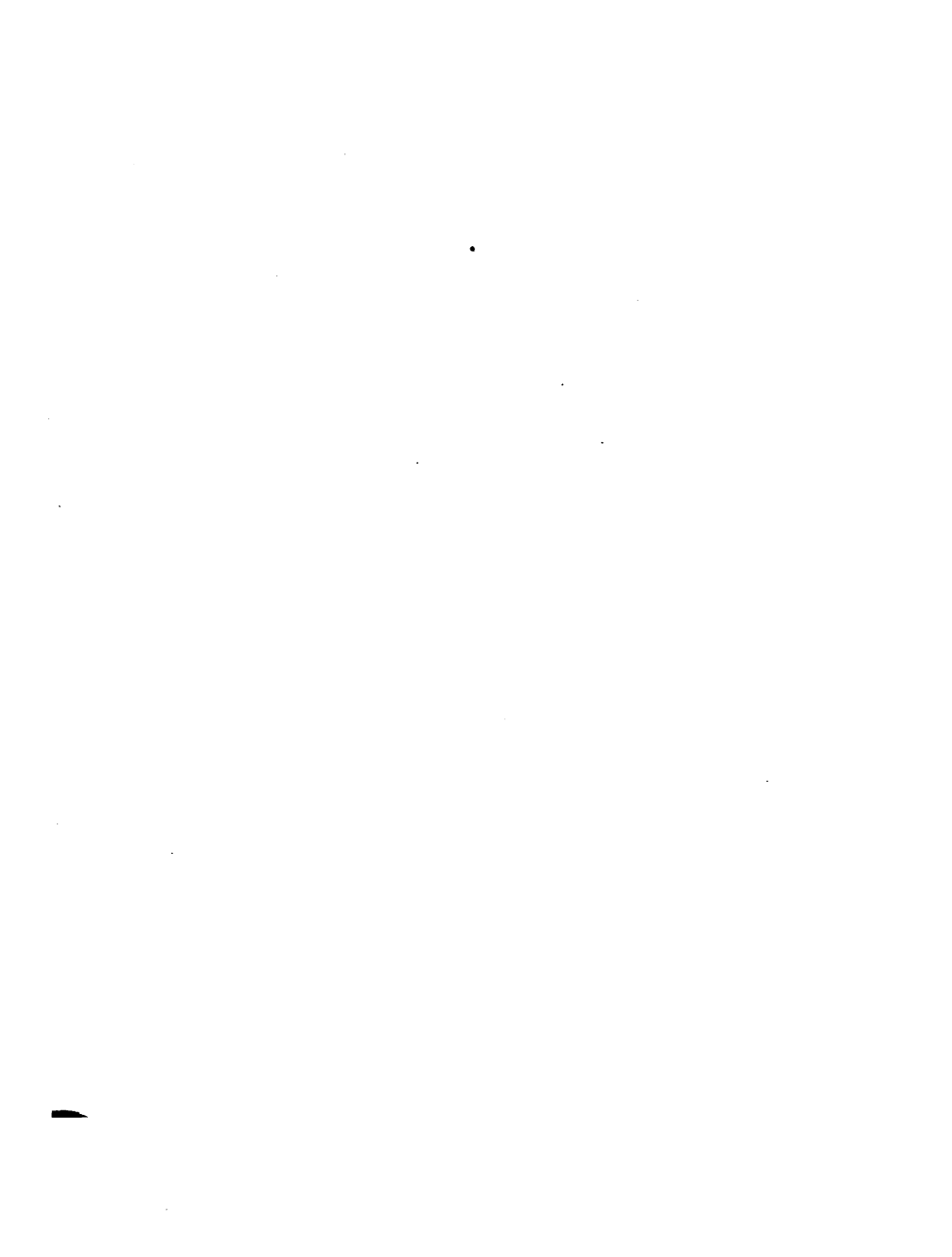
One key alone unlocks the doors—  
 A symbol white and small :  
 Oh ! brothers, give to us the key,  
 And you have given all !

—*Oil City, October 15th.*





**MISS M. LOUISE HEINER**  
**Supt. Work Among Soldiers and Sailors**



## CHAPTER XIII.

TWO VISITS TO THE "WHITE HOUSE" IN WASHINGTON,  
D. C., in 1880.—(1881.)

We were not privileged to attend the National Convention at Boston, but Mrs. Jones wrote us of its great success. I learned that persons long resident in that city declared that it outranked any body of women ever assembled there. In 1881, by arrangement with the Constitutional Amendment Committee, the State Union was enabled to secure and keep in the field an organizer, and also the privilege of a few columns in the *Amendment Herald*. This was a great advantage and helped us to increase our unions. On many accounts the meeting at Allegheny was pivotal, and we were glad of the presence of Miss Willard and other good women of faith and prayer. We turned into paths of safety and strength, however, and were thankful.

From Allegheny a number of us went to Washington to attend the memorable convention there.

It was the first time we had seen Miss Willard presiding, the first and last time we ever saw her honored mother, and the first time we ever met Miss Susan B. Anthony.

There was need of a clear brain and a firm hand at the helm in this meeting. Discordant elements stirred the assemblage, and many hearts feared we would surely be wrecked; but there were brave hearts that did not falter—women who saw the possibilities of our organization, and believed that no evil thing could prosper against it.

Whence came the courage and faith of that hour? Whence the steady guiding of W. C. T. U. craft away from the rocks and shoals of division and anarchy? Let the

following extract from a prominent officer's letter (Mrs. Buel) just after the convention, tell us.

On Wednesday morning after the convention there convened in Wesley Chapel a prayer-meeting, of which this officer wrote: "The meeting was crowded, and such a meeting as it was! Frances Willard seemed inspired, Mrs. Foster spoke, and Mrs. Thomson and Mrs. Lathrap. It was a time never to be forgotten."

Of the meetings of the Executive Committee she wrote: "Never in my experience have I seen such a delightful feeling of unity displayed as in our sessions during this convention."

Harmony and prayer at the fountain-head; these were the golden bonds that held when storms assailed.

It was during this convention that we had the honor of going with a delegation to the White House. We went in the interests of Mrs. Hayes' picture, which had been removed from the place originally assigned it, beside that of Martha Washington. President Arthur cordially received us and graciously acceded to the request to have the picture replaced.

We have a most pleasant recollection of another visit to the Presidential mansion during Garfield's administration. No persons were admitted to this reception without a card with Miss Willard's signature. We had been away from home, and missed the one sent us as Vice-President; but we ventured without it, and the doorkeeper politely refused us entrance. We asked if Miss Willard had arrived. He said she had, and that I might go in and see her. Her cordial greeting dispelled his doubts.

At President Garfield's inauguration, we had looked upon him as a kingly man, a prince among men for noble



**MRS. MARGARET G. HILL.**  
**Supt. Fair Work**



presence and bearing ; but as he came in, with Mrs. Garfield, his mother, and daughter, to receive us, and greeted Miss Willard cordially, saying, " Sister Frances, it is a long time since we met," we thought him the most brotherly of men. There were many most pleasant incidents of this visit, but space forbids their mention.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### ADVANCE IN EDUCATIONAL MEASURES.

During the year of 1881 and 1882, as an organization, we were feeling our way into the untried fields of our departments of work, fifteen in number, having divided the juvenile and Sunday-school work into separate departments, and added " constitutional amendment" as a leading line of work.

Seven years earnest study of the temperance situation had opened our eyes to the fact that the majority of us were ignorant of methods and the best way of getting at the work, the need of which had been so suddenly revealed to our consciousness. Every year, however, had widened the W. C. T. U. vision, as well as its power.

In my annual address in 1878, I said :—

" Trying to save the fallen, trimming here and there a branch, we have left untouched the great underlying root of the liquor traffic until it has spread through all the body politic, and bears its pestilent fruit in every part of it, and there is where eradication must begin. How shall we most efficiently work toward this consummation with all the light, the means, the influence we have? is the question we are here to-day to answer as God shall give us wisdom."

The W. C. T. U's of this country have been answering this question ever since, and wondrous are the paths into

which prayer and consecration have led, and the open doors sent before this organization.

We understood that our work must be largely educational. Slow processes, persistently carried out, alone could change sentiment that had been maturing for centuries in the custom and habits of nations.

The thoughts of our women had already evolved a number of plans, so that at our eighth convention in Oil City, 1882, some of them were bearing fruit.

Our educational departments were gaining strength at every point, our Evangelistic efforts were broadening and deepening.

Under the earnest leadership of Miss Narcissa White, trenchant, temperance articles were in the press and were arousing the public mind. Fifteen counties reported newspapers open for articles, "not many could spare a column."

We had taken up Constitutional Amendment, Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer had charge of this branch, and was intensely interested and devoted to it.

Mrs. N. B. O'Neil, superintendent of legislative work, said at this time, that the Pennsylvania W. C. T. U. was the first body in the State to declare for Constitutional Amendment, which was done at our Scranton Convention.

Our Sunday-school work was becoming well-defined, and the international petitions for quarterly temperance lessons were put in circulation that year.

Early in our work, the thought of some of our members turned towards our children in public and private schools as a strategic point of interest and importance.

Mrs. Maria C. Wetmore, of Warren County, then treasurer of our State W. C. T. U., was especially anxious and





**MRS. ANNABEL MORRIS-HOLVEY**  
Supt. of the Press



desirous to do something in this direction. She procured Dr. Richardson's text-books and Julia Colman's Manual, and offered them free to all in her county who would apply, and gave prizes for essays on temperance in common and high schools.

Much local work has been done in the early days of this kind, but God had "His thoughts toward us—thoughts of peace."

A new light had dawned, a new consecration had ; and out of a conservative New England home, a woman, clear-sighted, gifted, and immovable as a rock where light and truth were concerned, was called, and upon her mother heart were laid the school children of these United States, and Mary H. Hunt became their champion.

Like a true mother her life has since been largely devoted to their highest interest, and no danger or difficulty has hindered her efforts for their safety.

"Scientific Instruction was a leading department. It was sensible and practical, and took hold of the sympathies of the people. Mrs. J. D. Weeks, State Superintendent, was one of the most able and efficient women of our State, and her report shows that she already had well canvassed her field. In it she says that the number of temperance text-books in our schools then was so small that she was ashamed, but ventured the prophecy that in "1890 it would be as much a matter of course to teach the hygienic effects of alcohol, as it is now to teach grammar and arithmetic."

It was not all clear sailing for these pioneers of a great movement. They had many things to learn and to contend with. The January previous the State Superintendent of Public Schools had called two meetings of county superintendents, one at Pittsburg, on the tenth, and the other at Reading, on the seventeenth.

Mrs. Hunt had consented to address the convention in Pittsburg, if opportunity was given.

A request for a hearing was made through a gentleman, but positively declined, "for lack of time;" "nothing was left us but to call by a committee of ladies on the convention while in session and ask for a hearing. A note was sent to the Chairman, who read the request and put it to a vote whether Mrs. Hunt should be heard or not. Some objected to it as being foreign to the object of the meeting, no time, etc. But promptly Superintendent Chamberlain, of Meadville, arose and said, 'Why, gentlemen, I came to this convention to vote upon this very question.' Mr. Bratther, of Venango, also commended the subject, and the manner of presenting it. How we did bless the women of the W. C. T. U. of Meadville, who stood back of Professor Chamberlain."

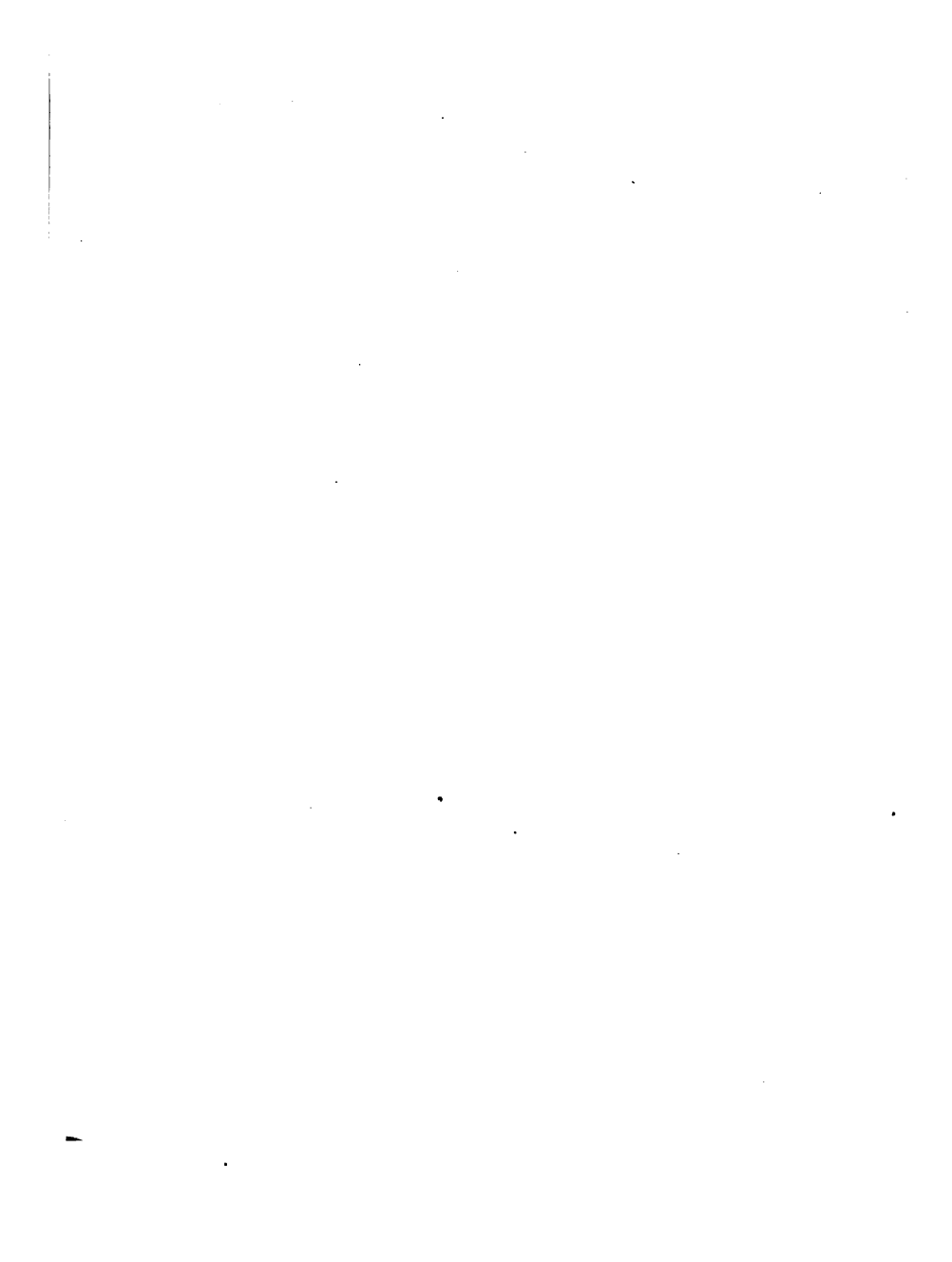
The vote was carried, and Mrs. Hunt given twenty minutes at the evening session. It would take too much time to tell of the trials and tribulations, the mud and mire, through which we rode five miles to that meeting, but we felt repaid when a resolution commending the subject of temperance instruction in public schools as presented by Mrs. Hunt, of Boston, to the consideration of teachers and school directors of our commonwealth, was passed.

The Reading convention was also reached, and a favorable resolution passed. At this meeting Miss H. Evelyn Brooks, of Scranton, Superintendent of Lackawanna County, spoke warmly in favor of the movement, and her address was received with cheers.

Mrs. Weeks said, "Now we felt that we had the county superintendents committed at least to a consideration of the subject and a State superintendent (Mr. Higbee), in full sympathy."



MISS JENNIE MITCHELL  
Supt. Work Among Colored People



The laws of Pennsylvania at that time placed the adoption or rejection of text-books entirely in the hands of school directors.

Mrs Weeks says in her report : "The time has arrived when every woman, at least every mother, in Pennsylvania, should make it her private business to ascertain positively the principles of each candidate for the office of school director."

## CHAPTER XV.

### BELLEFONTE SESSION 1883, BETTER ORGANIZATION.

There were many things that were somewhat depressing, as we gathered for our tenth annual meeting at Bellefonte in 1883, but not many of us will forget our pleasant stay in that beautiful town, amid the glory of the autumn days that made the shady avenues a sheen of gold above our heads, around us and beneath our feet.

Three imperative needs confronted us at this time :—

*First*, the State must be more thoroughly organized.

*Secondly*, we needed a channel of communication between the unions and the reading public that should be all our own.

*Thirdly*, we must have means or the advance resolved on could not be made.

Where were all these things to come from? The convention pledged itself to the special work of securing a law requiring scientific temperance instruction to be given in all schools supported by public money. Our work for the school children of the State had centered in this movement.

It was indeed, as Mrs. Weeks said, "a mammoth enterprise," and staggered the faith of some, who felt that it could not be accomplished; but in all our work the Lord has found us a "pathway through the sea."

Mrs. Hannah Whitall Smith was appointed Superintendent of Organization, and at once with her accustomed energy and faith, secured eight of our best speakers to organize the State, becoming responsible for all expenses above what the unions could furnish.

This was just the financial backing that was needed. It inspired our counties with courage, and they came up grandly to the work, \$2,000 were expended ; \$1,657.30 of which the unions furnished. When we came to our next convention at Harrisburg, 1884, 13 new counties had been organized and 181 new unions established. The Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Watson, said in her annual report : "Never again can any one mortal woman give a fair account of the work done in this State. All our reports will give but a faint idea of our rapid progress."

We shall ever be indebted to Mrs. Smith for this beginning of better days in our State W. C. T. U.

The lecturers who came into the State were women, who inspired faith and confidence in our work wherever they went. Very vivid in my remembrances of that year is an excursion through my own county with Mrs. Emily McLaughlin. She referred to it afterwards as "That jolly trip we took together," but I confess that aside from the genial humor and bright, cheerful spirits of my companions, I was not enamored with tedious stage rides over dangerous roads, when the frost was coming out of the ground ; uncertain snowbanks, and occasional slumps into deep holes; that threatened breakage and disaster ; nor of long walks in unlighted streets where sidewalks were, and then were not. Mrs. McLaughlin, however, seemed to find enjoyment in it all. Afterwards she wrote me, "You would





**MRS. E. L. STEPHENS**  
**Supt. Mother's Meetings**



think, if you could see me, that I had just been made president of the National, I have hardly smiled since our trip; have had large audiences, but terrific weather."

I am sure we can never honor our pioneer organizers enough. It was through the heroism of such devoted women that our Pennsylvania W. C. T. U. grew into self-supporting strength. Nor can we love and honor too much, the loyal women of the rank and file who at this time were carrying the 5,500 petitions for the new law, all through this great commonwealth.

At this time, Miss L. T. Kimball, National Superintendent of Sunday-school work, after seven years of untiring effort, had secured from the International Sunday-school convention, a resolution recommending that the request for specific temperance teaching shall be carried out by the lesson committees. The outlook was never brighter for success and victory, and all hearts took courage, but we were soon to encounter a storm undreamed of, that was to test our faith and courage to the utmost.

## CHAPTER XVI.

### HARRISBURG CONVENTION 1884.—SURPRISE AND VICTORY.

Probably no greater surprise ever came to the White Ribbon host of this country than that which they experienced shortly after our convention at Harrisburg, when one Autumn morning they "awoke to find themselves famous" as reputed factors in the defeat of a great political party in a Presidential election.

"For what cause," said Mrs. Swift in her annual address, "may well be asked, since we had been quietly engaged in our department work, in which politics bore

little share. But how could we help a feeling of amazement when our quiet unions were charged with having brought about this change. We took comfort, however, from the recollection that it was ever thus since our great ancestor tried to shield himself by 'the woman thou gavest me.' "

It is amusing now to recall the fears, the bitterness, the small ways with which the press and the angry people groped about in the blindness of sore defeat, for some object to visit their displeasure upon, and that it should be a woman's organization, which had no place in their councils and could not wield so tiny a weapon as a ballot among all their thousands of members, seemed the climax of absurdity.

The severity of the storm soon passed, but its effects lingered for a time. There were many in our ranks who felt the change of administration almost as much as their husbands and brothers, and it produced a sensitiveness in regard to politics that had not existed before in our society, composed as it was, of women of all political beliefs. We were non-partisan by our Constitution, in our State from the beginning, and had made prohibition of the liquor traffic an ultimatum towards which all our departments aimed, but after this episode the word prohibition seemed to have a new significance, and its utterance brought discord.

The consternation that had fallen upon us at first soon subsided, and gathering up our faith we remembered that "God was at the helm," and passed on into the sunshine of harder work and more determined advances along our lines of action, the prominent one that year being the Scientific Instruction Bill.

The thousands of petitions which, Mrs. Weeks says, "went out fresh and fair, two by two, as Noah's animals



**MRS. F. J. BEYER**

**Supt. To Secure the Use of Unfermented Wine at the Lord's Table**



entered the Ark, were being returned, sadly divorced in many cases, and firmly united in others. The ties that bound them ranged from the daintiest white ribbon, through all the gradations of silk, cotten and woolen cord, twine and yarn, up to *bona fide* iron wire."

Some of our sisters have "killed two birds with one stone," and when they canvassed for signatures wrote marvelous recipes for liniment, cough syrup and preserves on the back leaves and covers, and doubtless forgot to tear them off before sending them to the State Superintendent. Notwithstanding, the petitions came laden with 102,581 names.

One set of these petitions, sent by Mrs. Hannah W. Smith, had the signatures of one hundred saloonkeepers of Germantown. The report says: "It was the father and mother heart of even saloonkeepers trying to save their children from the poverty and sorrow of a drunkard's life."

The history of the heroic work done to secure the Temperance Education Law, as given in Mrs. Weeks annual report of 1885 is too valuable to be hidden in the minutes. It should be put in leaflet form and widely circulated. It is the history of a great struggle and victory, the most memorable that has ever occurred in the annals of our W.C.T.U. work.

The bill had passed to the third reading. "This," said Mrs. Weeks, "we knew would be the critical test, as renewed opposition had been manifested through the efforts of book agents and enemies of temperance, *per se*, and anxious hearts went to the capital that bright March morning. The little company that knelt with Mrs. Hunt in prayer before starting, felt that all for which they had worked and prayed so many weary months was trembling in the balance."

The bill passed the House, March 22d, and was signed by

Governor Pattison April 2d, 1885, and we could sing praises that a year beginning in seeming disaster had brought so great a victory.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### HUNTINGDON CONVENTION 1885.—CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TAKEN UP.

Mrs. H. D. Wharton in her address of welcome at Huntingdon, said: "We have not forgotten that this is the year A. D. 1885, and that one hundred years ago this mighty reform took its beginning with God and one man; and we are proud that this convention comes to us upon this grand centennial."

During this year the centennial of the temperance reform had been celebrated by enthusiastic meetings in nearly all the towns and cities in the country.

In congratulating the members upon the victory just gained in our Legislature, Mrs. Wharton said: "It is a great privilege to unite, face to face, and eye to eye from all over the State, in one grand song of praise; and we realize that we owe this victory to God's blessing on the consecrated efforts of our noble Mrs. Hunt. 'Tis true her hands were stayed up by Mrs. Hannah Whittall Smith and Mrs. J. D. Weeks, the one on the east side, the other on the west, even until the going down of the sun."

By an arrangement with the Constitutional Amendment Association, the W. C. T. U. secured several columns of their organ, the "*Amendment Herald*," and this had been the medium of official communication between the State officers and the unions, and was a great help, for which we were thankful.

At this Convention, "Constitutional Amendment" which





Mrs. H. W. PALMER  
Supt. State Industries and B. I. A.



had been "sidetracked" for Scientific Instruction to pass, was again taken up as a "special," and was to be urged vigorously under the leadership of Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer.

In Mrs. L. G. Sanford's report on "Influencing the Press," she says: "Miss Willard has said that 'the last year has been the brightest and best in temperance annals, from the standpoint of general agitation, organization and legal enactment.'"

We felt it to be so in our State, and the inspiration of success gave to our rapidly increasing hosts new energy and vigor; and the White Ribbon army went out to battle anew for Home Protection, and the salvation of our people from the drink curse.

There were heroines in that day, noble types of womanhood, brave to do for freedom from the liquor power, what our ancestors did for freedom from a foreign power, albeit they had only the weapons of faith, prayer and persuasion.

In 1876, a friend wrote to me: "It is not a question of capacity but of obedience. You must not ask, am I fit for public work, but does the Lord call me into public work. He alone knows if you are fit. He alone knows whether he can use you, and therefore He alone can decide the matter."

I am sure that the records of devoted work as given a year after at the Wilkesbarre Convention testified that more than one woman had heard and answered the call to service, as coming from God. How can we otherwise account for self-sacrifice of women, who gave up ease and quiet, to do the hard work of our growing organization. Not only the officers and superintendents, who without salary, did clerical work that was astonishing, but those who after the long campaign for the public school children,

took up the march for Constitutional Amendment over the same tedious route with undiminished vigor. At this time there were six counties in Pennsylvania without a single saloon. These and most of the others were already aroused, and the work was fully inaugurated. One woman who contributed one dollar earned at the wash-tub, secured six hundred names to the petition Amendment.

This was a fair sample of the interest and inspiration this new hope of release from the liquor traffic in our State, had awakened. Never did the star of hope beam more brightly on the homes and hearts darkened by the curse of drink.

Besides this great work, 27 departments with able superintendents, pressed the work, in as many different directions.

It is no marvel to us that temperance sentiment has grown, that prejudices have fled, and our work so greatly advanced with this steady force of prayer and effort always moving onward.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

RESUMÉ OF DEPARTMENT WORK.—SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.—WILKESBARRE CONVENTION 1886 AND LEWISBURG 1887.

We read with glowing interest after a decade of years, the record of the work of our departments for 1886.

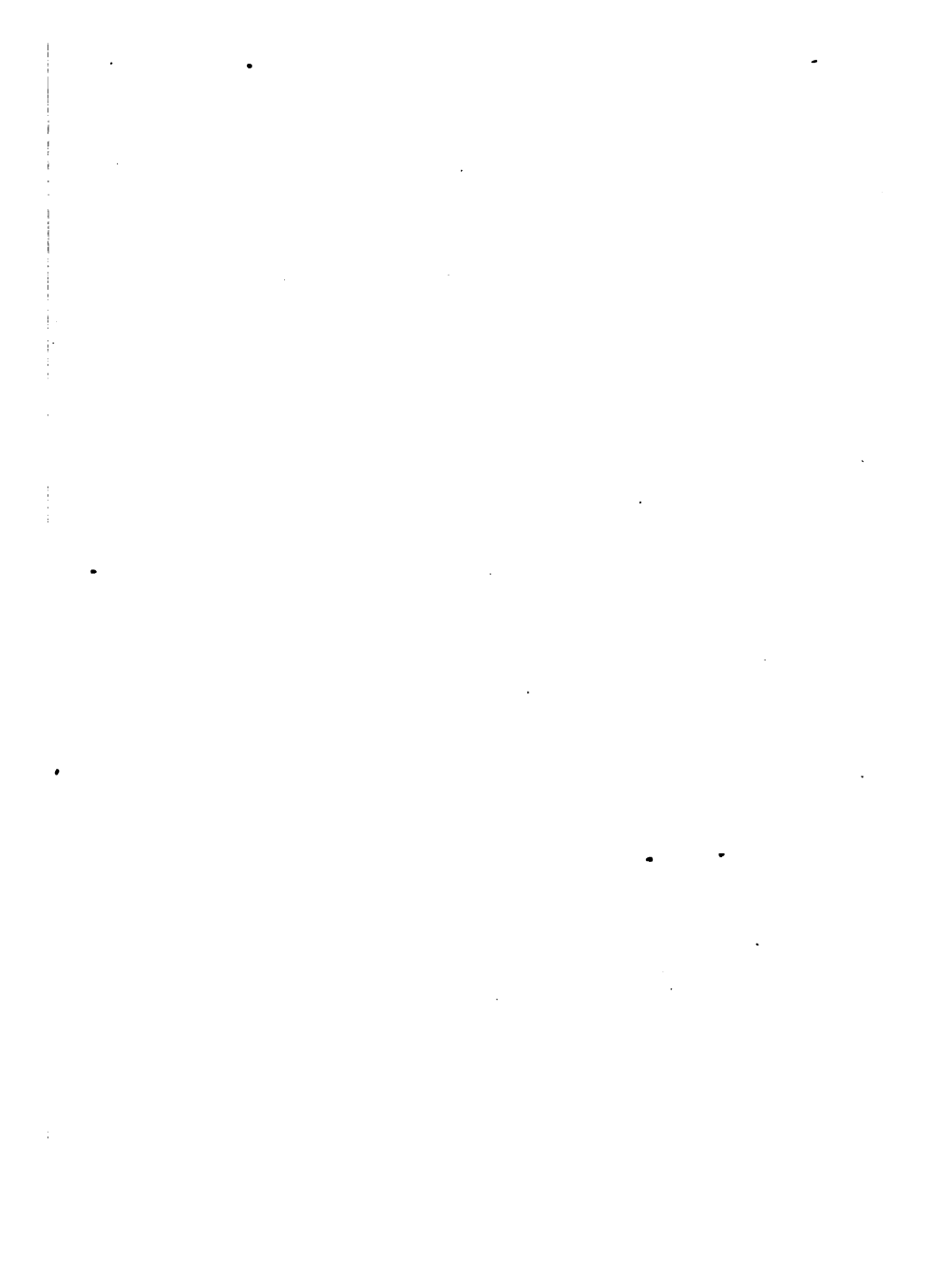
Of the capture of 163 spaces for temperance items in as many newspapers, under Mrs. H. S. Wharton.

Of the womanly courage that has presented our plea for Home and Childhood before assemblies, conferences, Missionary societies and teachers' institutes, under the leadership of Mrs. H. W. Williams.

Of the capture of many railroad employes to sobriety by prayer, adaptive literature, kindly sympathy and Christian



MRS. F. D. C. MAIR



interest, through the untiring efforts of Mrs. E. D. C. Mair, of Pittsburg, who is still leading on this work, and is so absorbed in its success, that she said then, and believes now, that "whoever else is overlooked or forgotten, we cannot forget these."

Our sympathies are stirred at the report of our colored sister, Mrs. F. E. W. Harper, of her work among her own people in the State.

We read with new wonder at the scope of the W. C. T. U. Of attempts to better the conditions of toilers beneath the ground, in our mining districts, under Mrs. Paul, and the efforts to send good literature to the isolated lumbermen in the great lumber camps of this State. Mrs. Billings was the first Superintendent.

Our hearts glow with sympathetic accord, born of early training, when we learn of the progress of the efforts to strengthen the band that holds our God-given Sabbath to its divine purpose; of which the Superintendent, Mrs. M. C. Stevenson, said, "Pennsylvania is evidently to be a great battle-ground for the preservation of the Sabbath," and also that "The Son of God, the Book of God, and the day of God, are His three great gifts to the children of men. Without the day to publish the Book, God's gift of His Son would be in a great degree in vain."

Then the goodly record tells of 500 more Christian churches, which banished fermented wine from the Lord's table that year, making the total number of churches using unfermented wine at Communion 1560, and of increasing "arrest of thought" on this subject. Mrs. F. J. Beyer, Superintendent.

Our heart warms with hope and bright prophecies of the

future as we read of the successful work of Miss Margie Martin in the Juvenile Department, and of the 17,000 children enrolled for total abstinence.

How surely we look forward to the ultimate victory of our cause, as we read of the 5057 young women already enrolled in the Y. Department, led by Mrs. Wm. Patten.

We seem to see the beginning of the solution of a grave economic and political problem, as we read of the work among foreigners under Mrs. H. T. Woods and her helpers.

The mothers' meetings that have been held under the consecrated lead of Mrs. Roney are a fresh inspiration.

And so the reports go on with more than the interest of a romance.

We may not take the space to tell of the educational efforts in the lines of health and heredity under Dr. Dodson, of Sunday-School temperance work, of efforts among soldiers and sailors ; of successful Evangelistic labor in twenty-three counties by those recently baptized with a tenderer sympathy for humanity through a closer union with Christ, and who were led in this work by Mrs. Isaac Colegrove, whose pen and hands had been busy with sending out letters and printed pages during all the year.

Now we read of a teacher visiting her fellow teachers and inspiring them to use their vast influence to make safer the paths of the youth they teach ; of her eloquence at Teachers' Institute, and her fearless advocacy of our cause everywhere ; and we stop to bless God for the noble presence and help of Narcissa White.

Our eyes moisten as we read that during this year, the jails, prisons, almshouses, and refomatories of fifty-four counties have been cheered and helped by the kindly pres-





MRS. EDITH K. BUSHONG  
Supt. Department of Narcotics



ence, more than once, of genial white ribboners bearing the comfort of human sympathy and the blessed messages of God's word. No wonder that Mrs. F. P. Nicholson, leader of this goodly host, could say, at the close of this report of gathered sheaves, "The past year is full of sweet memories, of lightened hearts, and happy faces, who were once pressed down with sorrow."

We see that our W. C. T. U's. were not lacking in knowledge of the potency of the printed truth and argument, so that fourteen hundred dollars were used by the Unions for the free distribution of literature, and more than two millions of pages fluttered out of gentle hands all over the State like dew to nourish and quicken public sentiment. Mrs. I. W. Stevenson may well say, at the close, to those under her leadership, "Pennsylvania has reason to be proud of her noble force of County Superintendents in the Literature Department."

Bear in mind, dear readers, that it was more than ten years ago that the W. C. T. U. army entered these avenues of service for "God and Home and Native Land." We can only give you a glimpse of this one year's accomplishment, which was only the beginning of the grand work done since.

Up to 1886, no salaries were paid our officers. Their abundant labors had been bestowed freely for love of the cause they had enlisted in, but our largely increased membership added so much to the duties of our officials that they found it difficult to give so much time from other duties, busy housekeepers as were most of them. At the Wilkesbarre Convention it was voted to allow Mrs. Woods, who had been our faithful, systematic, devoted Treasurer

for several years, to employ an assistant for a few weeks before the annual meeting.

Mrs. Woods is at this writing still our efficient mistress of finance, and the hearts of the women of Pennsylvania, do safely trust in, and love her. Thus wonderfully has God sent us the right woman for our important position.

Mrs. Carrie W. Cook and myself were detained from the Lewisburg Convention, in 1887, by the occurrence of our Susquehanna County Centennial, in which the County Unions were to have a part. The authorities gave the W. C. T. U. a prominent niche in the large Relic Hall, and also provided a commodious tent for their headquarters. This was spread in a corner of our lawn, where abundance of Temperance literature was dispensed, and excellent lunches provided.

The W. C. T. U. was also given a position next to the ministers and physicians of the county in the grand parade. They were represented by a committee from the county, consisting of officers and members in an open carriage, which was decorated with banners, and carried in the centre a stand upon which was a large Bible open at the "Crusade Psalm," upon which the hands of the women were reverently laid—Significant of the foundation of our work; faith in God's word, and also of the dawning of a new history for women in the coming century; as stronger, more active factors in advancing Christianity and a better civilization.

This seemed to be recognized by hosts along all the long route of the parade; no feature called out more hearty cheers or produced a more profound impression; men stood with uncovered heads and moistened eyes; many women wept for joy, more than one told us they were so overcome they



MISS ALVINA J. KESTER  
Supt. Medal Contest Work



fled to their closets to pour out their souls in thankful prayer.

Governor Beaver, as the carriage passed the speaker's stand greeted us with enthusiasm, then stepped to the front of the platform, and stood with bowed head until we passed. This reverent demonstration was a grateful surprise to us.

It seemed the recognition of an unvoiced prophecy, in the event that told of deliverance from the drink curse and a holier, happier time drawing near, when the blessed "Word" shall be regnant over all the earth. It was to us, who were part of it, one of the sweetest reminiscences of a life time.

The press alluded to it as the most touching and impressive incident of the Centennial.

## CHAPTER XIX.

PITTSBURG CONVENTION 1888.—CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT LOST, 1889.—PHILADELPHIA CONVENTION, 1889.

At Lewisburg some new departments had been added, notably that of "Mercy."

The battle for constitutional amendment was progressing. There had been no meeting of the Legislature that year, but good and broad foundations for the campaign had been laid.

When we met at Pittsburg, in 1888, reports were encouraging. Literature, petitions and tablets had been sent out like the leaves of the forest, and every woman urged to do her utmost to secure the submission of the amendment to the people by the next Legislature. The annual report showed good progress along our thirty other lines. For a few months the interest centered in the campaign for the Constitutional Prohibitory Amendment. Mrs. Wittenmyer was enthusiastic and believed that success was at our

“finger tips,” and urged that every nook and corner of the State must be reached by the truth. Encouraged, hopeful, loyal, the women of the State did go out to do a work that may well be called heroic.

At the next Legislature the question was submitted to the people, the vote on it to be taken on the 18th day of June, 1889. Now commenced a contest never equalled in this State—the campaign for safety for our children and protection for our homes. Prospects looked bright; nevertheless, on the night of the 18th the crushing news came to many a drink-cursed home, to many a weary wife and mother, to victims of the drink-habit, longing to break their chains, “The amendment is lost.”

The news brought such sorrow and darkness to the homes of Pennsylvania as it had never known before.

We do not wonder that Mrs. Wittenmyer said, in her report at Philadelphia, 1889, that “Truth had again been led to the scaffold, and bloody-handed money borne in triumph to the throne of power.” She said: “We have learned lessons that may help us in the future. We have learned that the liquor dealers are organized throughout the whole country, and stand ready to concentrate their money and diabolical power at any given point where their selfish interests are in danger. They are ready to sacrifice the best interests of society and the welfare of the government to secure their own aggrandizement.”

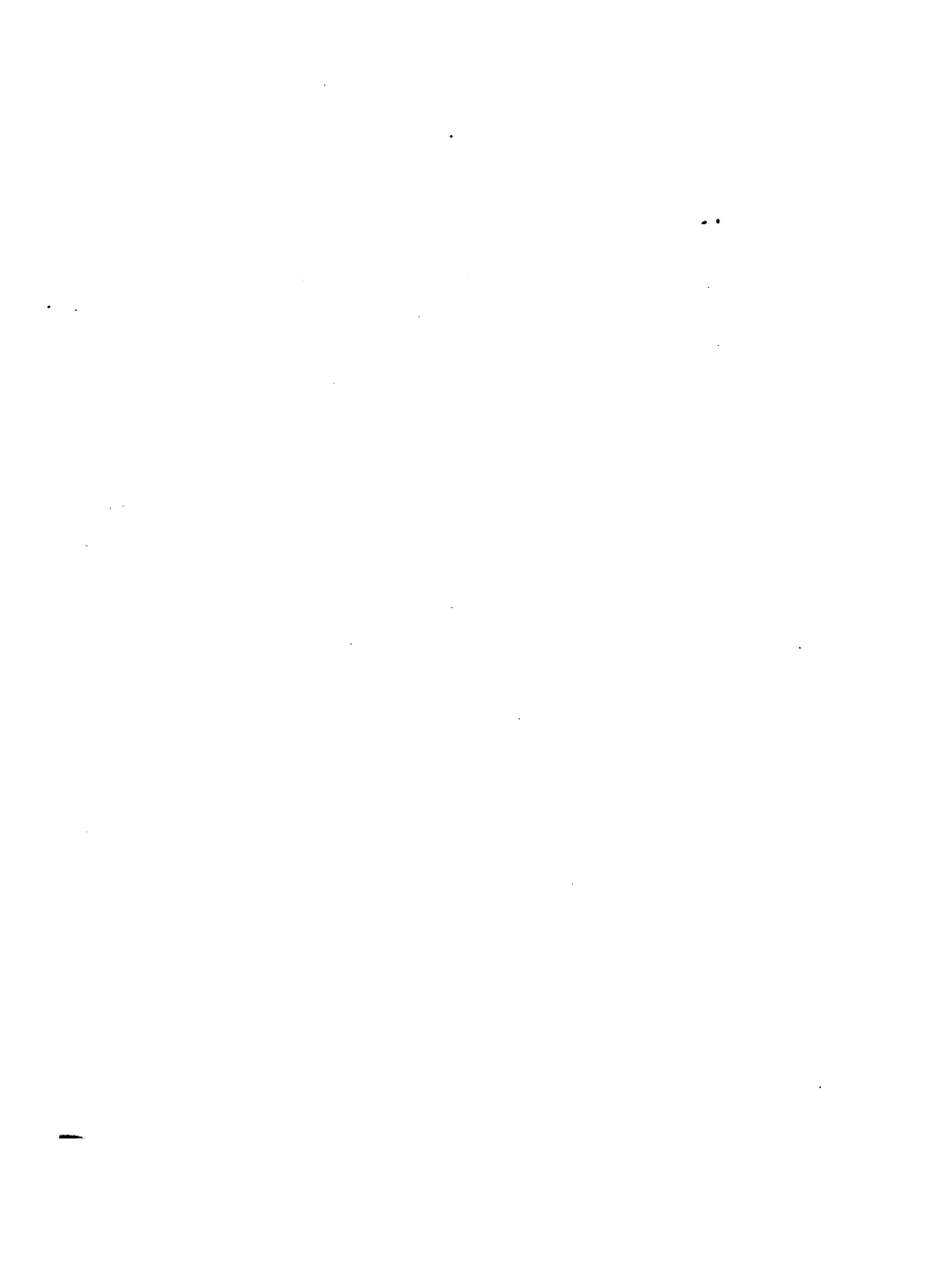
And so we had been learning lessons.

Mrs. Wittenmyer, having entered upon a new field of work as National President of the Relief Corps, resigned at this meeting, as superintendent of Legislative work, eloquently saying in the closing address, “I beseech you to





**MRS. SARA V. HEATON**  
**Supt. Flower Mission**



take care of the children. Hold the law that provides our scientific temperance instruction in the public schools. With the Bible and temperance text-books in the schools, and the Stars and Stripes floating above every school-house, we may hope to pre-empt the on-coming generation for temperance and liberty."

Mrs. H. W. Palmer, in her report on "Legal work," said: "Unheard-of and unprecedented efforts were made by every woman who wears the white ribbon to bring about the consummation of our hopes. The year of 1889 has been an exceptional year, so many unforeseen things have happened; surprised in the first place by the unexpected general interest at first manifested in the movement for amendment; surprised at the overwhelming vote recorded against the amendment, and in favor of perpetuation of the saloon."

Politicians gravely said, "the voice of the people hath spoken; they do not want Prohibition." We shall never believe it. The lost amendment was the voice of the liquor power. It taught us that non-partisan efforts were not always successful, and turned our hearts more than ever to our chosen work of securing entire prohibition of the liquor traffic.

Mrs. Palmer said very truly, "Our sympathies, our hopes are concentrated on the Prohibition Party, that noble body of men who are willing to be persecuted, traduced and ignored for righteousness sake. I do not wonder we get excited on the question, it touches us every one. I am far from thinking that it is a sign of coming dissolution when we wax warm in debate. It is rather the result of educational thought. The time has been when two hundred women in convention assembled had not the courage nor the knowledge necessary to a free expression of their senti-

ments. That time has passed in the W. C. T. U. No second-hand opinion here; every woman does her own thinking; therefore, her convictions are strong, and she is in no danger of becoming aggressive."

Mrs. Swift, in her annual address, said: "The liquor men say that 'the tidal-wave has swept the idea of Prohibition out of existence,' and adds, 'a tidal-wave, indeed, which shall sweep into perdition thousands of souls.'"

But we gladly turn from this scanning of the clouds to note that disaster had not disheartened our indomitable forces already rallying from defeat to organize anew for the contest.

The Woman's Suffrage question had not "split us into fragments," and our strength was greater. Now the fear seized upon some that we might wield political power and go over bodily to the Prohibition party, albeit we had no votes.

At this convention an effort was made to amend our Constitution by inserting the words "non-partisan" and "non-sectarian," which did not meet with approval. Perhaps the Amendment campaign was in their minds.

The majority was loyal to the old Constitution, which said nothing about politics or party. The storm drove away a small minority. We bid them God-speed in their own methods, and calmly moved on under the old banner.

We concentrated our efforts upon our department work, and have been moving on towards grand success. Our State conventions rival the national in numbers and interest, and our hope is that we will be an increasing power until the overthrow of the liquor traffic is accomplished.

How was the storm so grandly weathered? By the energy and promptness of the President.



MRS. I. A. MCBRIDE  
Supt. Parlor Work



We had written, as we believed it our privilege to do, a calm, thorough exposition of our position as a State W. C. T. U. It was published in a local paper, which had rented a part of its columns for our State work. The President, Mrs. Jones, saw it, and without delay published it in a leaflet and scattered it broadcast, and before we knew it we were receiving congratulations. It had its influence in retaining many good women, it did not prevent a few going out.

Mrs. Swift had resigned her position as President, being called to other duties. We entered upon our next year with an entirely new set of officers, with the exception of Mrs. Woods.

## CHAPTER XX.

SCRANTON CONVENTION, 1890.—A NEW ADMINISTRATION.

As we have before stated, our annual Convention at Philadelphia in 1889 was an ordeal of no common nature, and tested our faith and strength to the utmost. Some good friends of our cause thought they saw the wreck of our State organization already floating on the billows of the internal tempest that was agitating it. But no, only a small portion of our beloved craft drifted away, and we believed that our ship of State was staunch and strong, and would outride all storms.

That our trust was well founded we all felt assured, as we gathered at Scranton in 1890, to review the situation and to take our bearings under the new administration.

We had found Mrs. Mary H. Jones a most efficient recording secretary in former days. We found her a most wise and active President.

Coming to us at a time when we needed a leader of wisdom and foresight—at a time of the most troubled of all years of our State W. C. T. U. life, our prayers and hopes centered

in her, and our able corps of executive officers to an unwonted degree, and God had not permitted them to fail us.

Through all the trying months of this year these faithful women bore many burdens, disappointments and opposition hard to endure, but came to us at our annual meeting strong, calm and gentle, and ready to report increased membership, growing enthusiasm, and our good W. C. T. U. ship trim and in good sailing order.

In her first annual address, Mrs. Jones said: "The defeat of the Prohibitory Amendment fell with a crushing blow upon scores of weak unions, causing their disbandment, and bringing about a condition of helplessness, which disheartened and paralyzed others for a time. Succeeding this, the estrangement and opposition of former friends, the confusion thus caused, together with misunderstandings created, have made the work harder than ever before ; but the divine force which impelled you, my sisters, to stand steady and true to the spirit and work of the W. C. T. U., has also taught you the source of your strength."

We felt that this was true, as we noticed the unity and subdued tenderness that made this Convention the most spiritual since the first one at Philadelphia. We seemed to have gone backward and forward—back to our original trust and dependence upon the divine power ; forward, to all that such trust implies of unity, peace and success.

Our wise Executive Board had forborne dwelling upon points of difference, and, like our "Saint Courageous," had seen only the points that harmonize, and the magnificent outlook of our work for God, and home, and every land, so that harmony was the keynote to which the Penna. W. C. T. U. was attuned, and in the quiet peace thereof it was easier to





MRS. CLARA A. SHRIGLEY  
Supt. School Savings Banks and State Endowment Fund



catch the higher meaning of our mission to humanity, and get a clearer vision of the field we were called to enter.

We wish every woman in our State could read our Corresponding Secretary's report for this year. Its historical value, exposition of aims, and grasp of prospective advance, after such a year of trial and struggle, entitle it to be placed here in full had we the space. All who heard it will remember well how it thrilled the Assembly with its ringing, confident cheer.

We quote her eloquent exposition of our organization: "What is this union of women? We believe that the liquor traffic is one of the greatest barriers to the cause of Christ that missionaries have to meet, and just so long as the vessel that carries the missionaries in the cabin and the 70,000 gallons of rum in the hold, this body of women will be a Foreign Missionary Society, and will add, as fast as possible, to the fifteen foreign countries that are now pushing our department work.

"What is the W. C. T. U.? In every hamlet, town, city, and county of our forty-three States, eight Territories, and the District of Columbia, the poor, the outcast, the hungry, the naked, the sick and in prison, are reached by our membership; therefore, it is to-day the greatest Home Missionary Society in the world." Of the year just closed, she says: "The God of Jacob has been our refuge, and the peace and harmony which have brought us bright hope for the future is all due to Him, whose promise is: 'I will never leave you.'"

We believed this and were grateful that He had given us consecrated, wise leaders, through whom He wrought, and through whom we had achieved victory from the darkness of defeat. Indeed, our Central Committee seemed given us "for such a time as this."

Mrs. Mary H. Jones, our President, gifted, energetic, as firm as she was gentle, tactful and adaptive in all exigencies.

Mrs. Henrietta H Forrest, Corresponding Secretary, of large literary and executive ability, patient, loving, and genial to all.

Mrs. Olive Pond-Amies, Recording Secretary, of rare womanly gifts, able, loyal and most excellent in counsel.

Mrs. W. H. Woods, Treasurer, talented, true-hearted, self-denying, with business habits and ability that made sure our financial basis.

Mrs. Cynthia Holcomb, Vice-President-at-Large, with a heart as large as her trust, firm as our mountain rocks, gentle and womanly, and as capable a woman as ever wielded a pen or voice against a wrong.

What wonder that the year had been successful under such an administration.

During this year, in the midst of our trials, there had come to us a great joy and surprise. Quietly as rises the Morning Star, came this new gift into our homes and unions. It was nothing less than a full-fledged State paper that fluttered its cheer and kindly messages about us and won our hearts. It was the realization of our dreams and longings, this medium of communication, all our own. It bore the name of our President and Corresponding Secretary, but there seemed to be a conspiracy of silence as to its origin and support. The BULLETIN, however, was an assured fact. After a while we found out who had nurtured this child of our adoption, and can never express our gratitude for the personal sacrifice and self-denial of the first editor and publisher, who had wrought so grandly for this able factor in our State work.

Mrs. Forrest won our love as Corresponding Secretary, and as the able publisher of our State paper, she holds it in a rare degree.

The Y.'s, our W. C. T. U.'s charming right wing, were greatly prospered, and "were never on a firmer basis," so the able report of their gifted leader, Mrs. W. B. Rhoades, assures us. The Ys. of Pennsylvania were already taking first stand among the organizations in the country.

The year had been fruitful in new ventures.

We held our first Demorest Contest at this Convention. It was held under the direction of Miss H. Frances Jones, State Organizer of Loyal Legions. Miss Jones has been for several years an efficient and earnest leader of young people, and under her competent management the contest was a great success.

As we returned to our homes to scatter abroad on our local fields the seed gleaned at the Convention, it was with the conviction, deep down in our hearts, that in the women of Scranton we met a right royal sisterhood, who knew how to make all wheels of convention machinery move quickly and easily, so that the delegates were at their best, and elicited this verdict from the people, "the brainiest, most hard-working and earnest body of women who ever graced our city with their presence."

## CHAPTER XXI.

BRADFORD CONVENTION, 1891.—NEW CASTLE, 1892.

Not the least in our esteem among the time-honored W. C. T. U. customs is that of holding a prayer and conference meeting in the evening before our Annual Convention. Not many of us will forget what a help and inspiration the meeting was as we gathered next year at Bradford.

It was like a new country to many of us, this region of derricks, oil wells and flambeaux of natural gas, lighting streets, homes and hillsides. It quickened our pulses to come in contact with the stirring enthusiasm of our go-ahead western sisters in the Bradford W. C. T. U., who owned their headquarters, and had made it a paying investment.

Our President's address in its wide scope, evidenced that she had well studied the possibilities of a better and more enduring effort in the future.

The Corresponding Secretary's report was a mass of triumphant facts:—77,500 copies of the BULLETIN sent out; 3,003 public meetings held; \$31,026.08 raised by the local unions; 200,000 children gathered into temperance organizations.

Mrs. Forrest closed her grand report with this hopeful sentence: "We have weathered the storms of indifference, criticism and misrepresentation, and we are entering upon our best days."

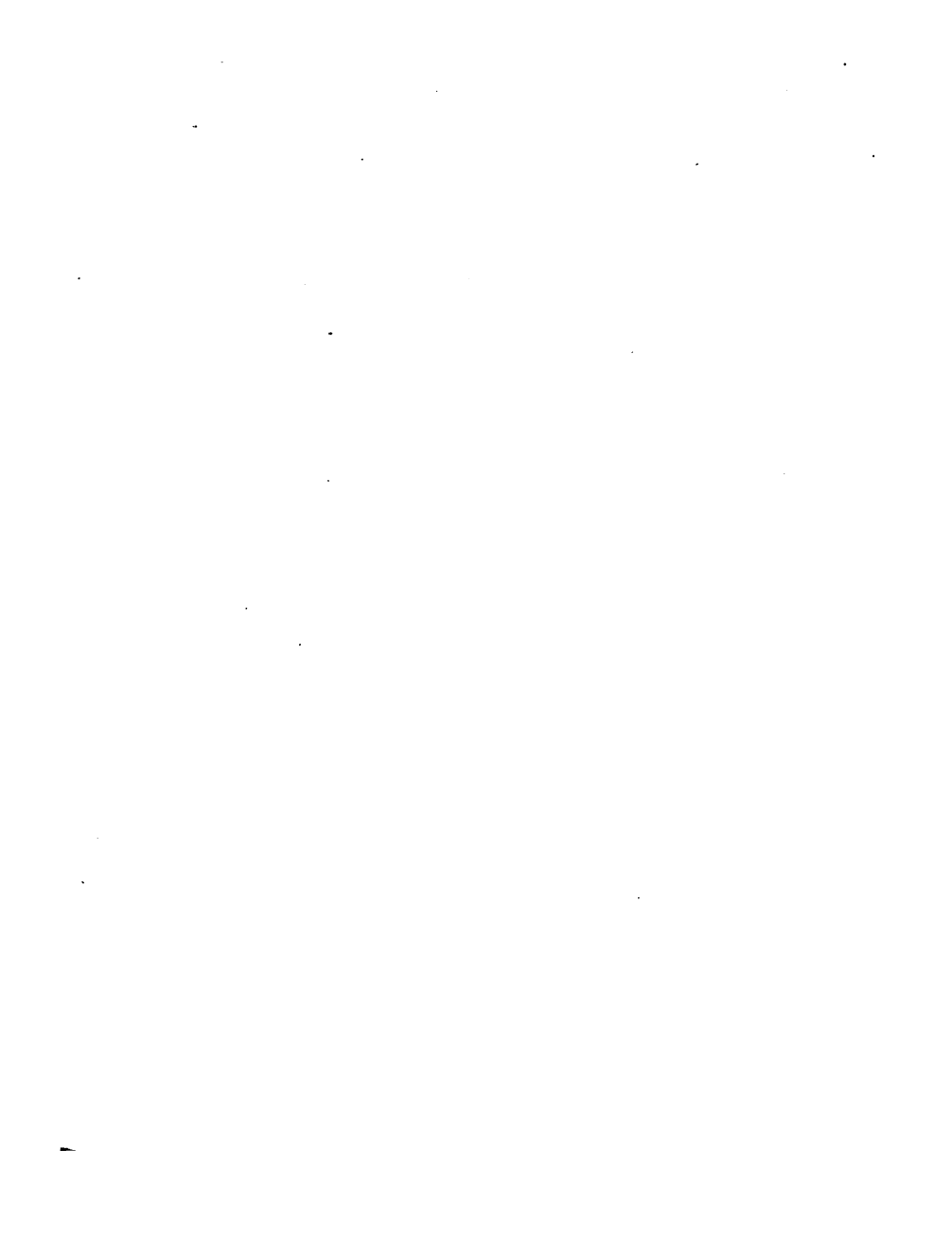
Were we indeed entering upon our "best days." Yes, if brightening skies, popularity, greater strength, and larger numbers are evidences of it. But when we look back from the heights of success, upon work wrought, the best days—the days we love to recall, are the days of struggle, the days when all the forces of a righteous movement were in requisition, and we were striving for a foothold in the popular thought. These are the days that linger in memory, that are talked over and glorified.

It was no longer a question of success or of popularity with the W. C. T. U. of Pennsylvania when we met at New Castle in 1892. Both were assured.

We were warmly welcomed to this hospitable and beauti-



MRS. AGNES C. WOOLSTON  
Director of Music





ful city. It is true, as the newspapers said, "No trumpet or ringing bugle note heralded the approach of the W. C. T. U. Neither did they take the city by storm, but came silently and peacefully from North and South, from East and West. The trains bore us loads of temperance workers, until now the W. C. T. U. has undisputed possession of the city."

When we entered the M. E. Church, we found it a veritable "bower of loveliness." The decorations were elegant. Flowers lent perfume, banners adorned the entire church, silk flags draped the organ, from the chandelier hung long festoons of the L. T. L. Pledges in white, red and blue, while wreaths of them hung from the windows and doors.

New Castle is a city of churches, and of Christian ministers who are in full accord with our cause and work, as was evidenced by the eagerness with which they sought for delegates to occupy their pulpits the ensuing Sabbath.

We had a new departure at Bradford. Miss Greenwood, the National Superintendent of Evangelistic work, gave a Bible Reading of an hour each day at 11.30. We found it so helpful that it was continued at New Castle, and at this hour the large church was filled with attentive listeners, among whom were most of the clergymen of the city.

The hall where the delegates were entertained to dinner and tea was quite a distance from the church, and the long procession of white ribboners marching to the hall each day was a scene to be remembered, especially one day when a large number of the clergy led the march, being the invited guests of the entertaining committee.

We have never had a more cordial recognition and reception in any city. The evening of the L. T. L.'s was of more than ordinary interest. New Castle is the home of the

superintendent of this juvenile organization, and the appearance, songs, speeches and marching of the one hundred girls and boys evidenced the faithful training of a master hand. Indeed, the National Superintendent of Juvenile work said, "I am glad to say that there is not in the United States so faithful a worker as Miss Belle Braham, the Superintendent of Juvenile work for Pennsylvania." The marching, the the banners, the enthusiasm of the children were inspiring.

The Women's Temperance Alliance was in session in the city, and a delegation from them was received, welcomed by the President, and introduced to the audience.

At this meeting the reports show steady advance along all departments, and especial encouragement in the good tidings of work done by our fair allies, the Ys., now reported as 5000 strong, and keeping step with a will, in all the work of the W.'s.

The able superintendent of the Y.'s, Mrs. Rhoades, quoted the saying "that the noblest philanthropy of any is giving of one's self," and said, "Judging by this standard no age in the history of the world equals the present in the gift of young womanhood to Christian service," and we can truly add that nowhere is it given more heroically and beautifully than in the young woman's temperance organization of Pennsylvania. She says to the young women, "You are no longer novices, but earnest daughters following out different and most important lines of work." The array of the Y.'s in the evening meeting that they have the charge of, is the flower garden of our convention and of our hopes. Never was it more resplendent than at this meeting.

Now again the inevitable change and succession brought to us two new officers, Mrs. Anna Hammer, as President,

and Mrs. Rebecca B. Chambers, as Corresponding Secretary. We never thought that we could give up Mrs. Jones and Forrest, but obediently, under the force of circumstances, transferred our trust to the new officers, and found though not the same, nor filling the place of the others, they were still grand and loyal in their own personality, and filled admirably new places of their own, so that our "best days" continued to grow better.

## CHAPTER XXII.

### LANCASTER CONVENTION, 1893.

The year 1893 prospered under the new administration, and closed with a successful Convention at Lancaster, one of the oldest and most conservative cities of our State.

Our trip to this convention was one of peculiar delight. At Northumberland we joined the Western delegations, and found ourselves in the company of a goodly host whose warm greetings and earnest converse made the journey short.

As the cars sped along through the magnificent Autumn scenery of lower Pennsylvania, the Peace of God seemed to lie upon hill and vale, and the ride through the crimson and golden-crowned hills, was like a benediction, and our lives seemed to blossom inwardly, and "every breath was like a litany," and occasionally, the joy and blessing of it broke out in songs of joy and praise, that made the car ring with sweet sound, and which brought all the stray delegates in other cars to join us.

They knew the welcome sound. All the journey was a fitting preparation for the opening prayer meeting of the evening, at which 350 were present.

If we had any fears that the environment of long time

conservatism in this beautiful city would dampen the ardor of delegates, or lessen the prestige of the W. C. T. U. work, the cordial reception given us and the warm words of welcome dispelled them ; and the large attendance, both at our sessions and public meetings, assured us of large interest in our mission to humanity.

The Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., when introduced to the Convention, said : " You look like a political Convention, but you don't act like one. You attend to and properly conduct the business before you."

Miss Greenwood's Bible readings, at 11 o'clock each day, were much appreciated. Many clergy of the city came in to them, and the Ministerial Association adjourned to attend in a body.

The officers were all re-elected. Mrs. Hammer had been in and out among the unions, building up, strengthening and forming unions, everywhere welcome and everywhere a power.

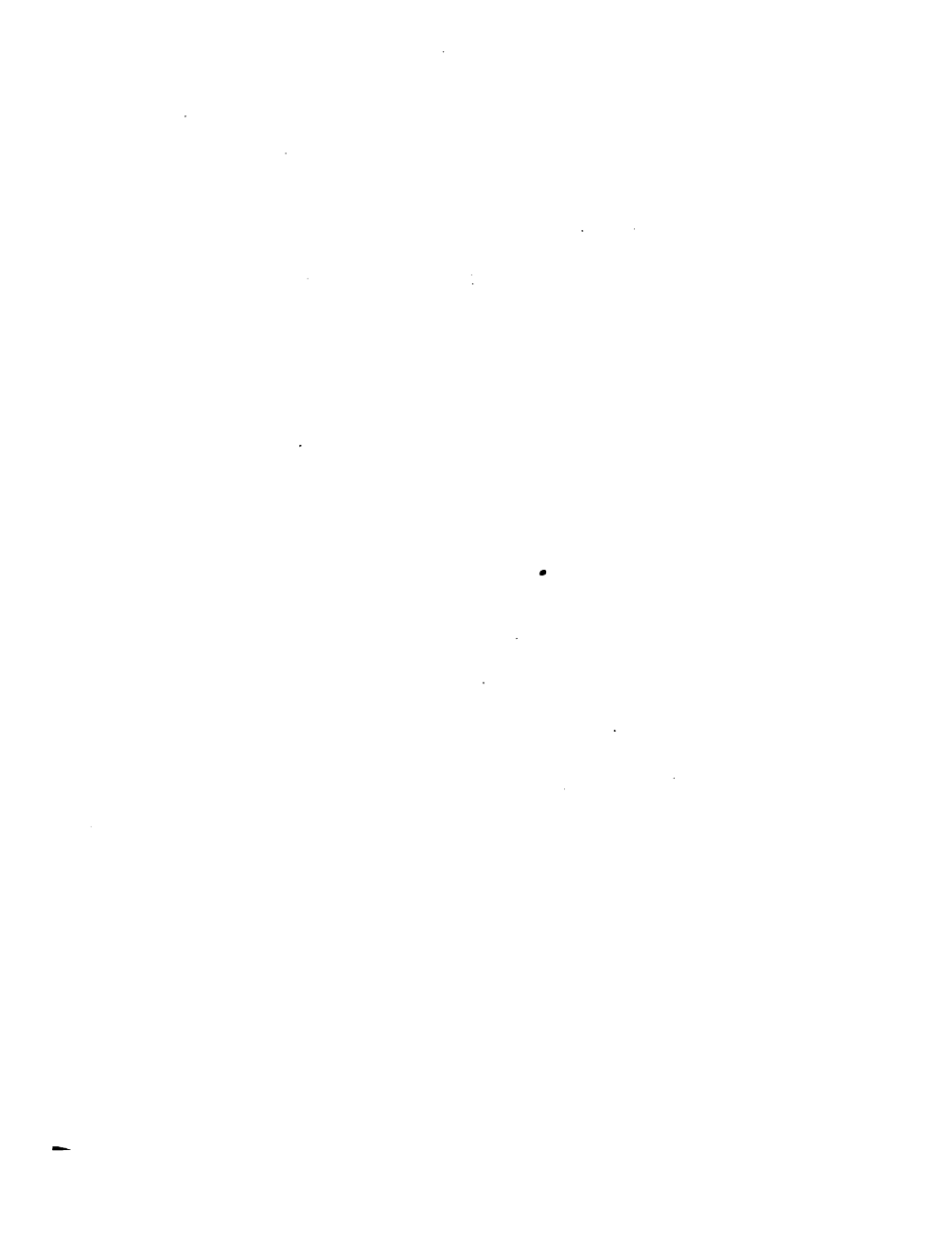
Up to the preceding March, the State paper had been a private interest. A generous member of the union, Mary H. Jones, had been editor, publisher and supporter of this strong right arm of the service, having borne it through its childhood until able to go alone, she turned it over to the Executive Committee of the State, free of debt and with a liberal dower to provide still farther for its future.

One of the sustaining forces of any cause is the absence of discouragement. The W. C. T. U. seems to have found this out early, and have largely banished the word from this calendar, with blessed results.

All our departments have had a steady growth. We entered upon the new year, more confident than ever in the ability of our leaders, and in Him who had not permitted us to suffer defeat or to unfurl a recreant banner.



**MRS. ABBY RHOADS**  
**Supt. Scientific Temperance Instruction**



Our next meeting was to be held in the Natal City of the State W. C. T. U., Philadelphia, and towards this Mecca all our loving thoughts were turning, as to a mother.

The winding up of our twentieth year in the old birth-place, was full of significance to many of us, and we worked with a will that we might show a goodly growth and a loving adherence to our Alma Mater in all our character.

### CHAPTER XXIII.

PHILADELPHIA CONVENTION, 1894.—HARRISBURG, 1895.—  
PITTSBURG, 1896.

The delegates to the Convention, October 10, 1894, had many happy surprises in store for them. Evidently, twenty years had been a development in arrangements for entertaining the W. C. T. U., until almost perfection had been attained.

The beautiful Temple in which we convened, with its unique and luxurious appointments, its modern inventions and conveniences, its adaptation to comfort, was truly a delight and surprise. Then the decorations of the vast auditorium, the air of homelikeness that pervaded all the building, from the elegant committee rooms to the parlors and dining room, made convention hours less wearisome, for all were ample enough to do away with any need to go outside "The Temple," except to sleep.

As we took possession of all this comfort prepared for us, our grateful thoughts went out to the Christian women of Philadelphia, who had planned so wisely and so well, and had executed so perfectly their planning.

A distinctive feature of this convention, was the entertainment provided each day by the women of a different church. It was a joy to look into the kindly faces of these Christian sisters. It seemed a herald of that blessed time when we

shall all be one in Christ, and denominational lines shall have blended into that Light "which lighteth every man who cometh into the World."

Only twenty years since our first small gathering in this city, and now this great congregation, filling to overflow, this magnificent Temple, and eliciting the attention of this great city. Only twenty years, and, conscious of power, jubilant in hope, victorious over trials and discouragements we were here. It surely was a sight good to look upon. Victory seemed to perch upon every banner. Discordant sounds were lost in the distance, and only the harmonies of a Christ-like love for humanity, fell upon our hearts like a benediction.

It is no wonder that in the midst of these environments, the hearts of the W. C. T. U. grew young, glad, and were endowed with new hope and vigor.

Among our progressive movements, was the appointing of a musical director. How helpful, and restful, the songs of Zion were, as led by Mrs. Erdmann, and introduced in the pauses of our routine business sessions, only those can tell, to whom the refreshment came, "As the dew of Hermon."

Another sweet surprise was the presence of Miss Willard for a little time upon the platform, when we had feared that her health would not permit it. We will all remember the tender way in which she touched the chords of sweet home memories in her brief talk, and attuned them anew to the harmony of a loving faith in our Heavenly Father and the "Land not far away."

Miss Willard said: "This assemblage reminds me of the National." And in many respects, it seems to us, it was the crowning one of all the good ones held before. It was a success from beginning to end, a splendid develop-



ment of the original purpose vouchsafed us in the beginning of our long campaign.

We had outgrown our fears of "Prohibition" and "Woman Suffrage," and had come into our rightful heritage of free speech and individual opinion.

We had found that the saloon and liquor traffic presented political and religious problems as vast as ever engaged the attention of the American people.

Could women help to solve these questions? If the convention at Philadelphia convinced us of anything, it was that we had been called, had enlisted, and were in training for just this purpose, and that the steady progress in all our departments was a token of coming victory.

We came rejoicing, and we went forth to our work cheered, and looking forward to our twenty-first birth-day, to be celebrated in our State capital, with great interest. We well remembered with what fear and trembling we had twice before gone up to this centre of political power, wearing the White Ribbon protest against the liquor traffic, an emblem that has become during the years of our labor, a centre of power and hope in our land.

Enthusiasm and spiritual devotion characterized this meeting. Thanksgiving and praise always brings souls near to God, and this was the key-note of this convention from the opening hymn, "Guide me, Oh, thou Great Jehovah," until the last one, "Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee."

In response to her promise to give her services to the State showing the largest increase in membership, Miss Willard was with us, strong and well again.

We believe that after our twenty-one years of preparation and study of the situation, the W. C. T. U. of Pennsylvania

enters the realm of her majority, equipped and ready to do better service than ever before, and to make a place for herself in the history of notable reforms.

Perhaps no report at this convention enlisted the sympathies and appealed more to the public mind, than Mrs. Mair's report on R. R. work, 700 of which were published by the railroad men, and distributed to their brethren in that city.

The State hymn composed by Mrs. Hammer, gave added lustre and zest to our sessions. Mrs. Chambers, declining re-election to the office of Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. H. Frances Jones, of Philadelphia, succeeded her.

We cannot forbear a word about the Loyal Temperance Legion, which, under the devoted leadership of Miss Belle Braham, had attained such large success. In her self-sacrificing efforts for this department she lost her health, and Mrs. Elma Preston succeeded her, and announced that at their next annual convention, they expected to have a thousand boys and girls enrolled as graduates of '95.

Pittsburg is one of our rallying points, and in '96 we were privileged to meet again in this hospitable, wide-awake city. In this place, some of our first efforts were made, along lines that have since developed so grandly.

Here, prohibition was first urged from the W. C. T. U. platform. Here, the first hint of women's suffrage, in our State conventions, took form in the prophecy that sometime deliverance from the drink traffic would come by the descent in the purified atmosphere of a better civilization, of millions of pure white ballots from woman's hand. A hint at legal prohibition, or woman's suffrage, was at that time considered little less than heresy. From this point, Mrs. Weeks and her coadjutors fought the memorable battle for the



MRS. ANNA KEENEN  
Supt. Work Among Railroad Employees



Scientific Temperance Instruction Law. And this city was headquarters for the Constitutional Amendment campaign. Here the battle for the continuance of the Sunday School Temperance Lesson was won by our Temperance forces. So that, as we gathered in the Fourth Avenue Baptist Church, of Pittsburg, for our twenty-second anniversary, it was like visiting in times of prosperous peace, the place of earlier defeats and victories.

It was in 1888, that we last convened in this city. How greatly we had prospered under the "do everything policy" of later years, the large assemblage, the complete arrangements, the delightful spirit of unity that prevailed, the spiritual trend of all the sessions, attested, and we were assured in our souls, that progressive and aggressive work had not "put us back 100 years."

#### CHAPTER XXIV.

##### WILLIAMSPORT CONVENTION, 1897. REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT WORK. TRIBUTE TO MISS WILLARD.

The year that stretched from the Twenty-second Annual Convention, at Pittsburg, to our next annual meeting at Williamsport, was one of marked success, so we gladly brought our full sheaves to this yearly gathering of good things.

Williamsport was another historical place where the fires of the Crusade burned brightly in 1874 and '75, and formed the foundation of a strong W.C.T.U. Our first annual meeting was held here in 1875, in the M. E. Church, on Pine Street.

To return here after twenty-two years and find the spirit of the Crusade still here, in fervent, earnest power; to find the undaunted W. C. T. U. still holding the fort, and more, sending out far and wide an influence for good, well recog-

Annual Meeting. Mrs. E. D. C. Mair, of Pittsburg, so long our Superintendent of work among railroad employees, and so honored in her efforts, was about to go to another state.

Our well beloved President, Mrs. Hammer, on account of failing health, was obliged to resign. The sacrifices made in fulfilling the mission of her high office, were too great a strain. She had attempted to visit the Unions, to travel and lecture also, things a state President, with all the perplexing duties of the office should never be asked or allowed to do. Mrs. Hammer, believing that God had called her to do this work, brought to it a large experience, rare gifts, a fine command of language, a cultured intellect. Genial, whole-hearted and strong, she gave herself so unselfishly to the interests of the cause, that five years service nearly made her a "physical wreck."

Thus many brave women are giving their strength and lives to protect the homes of this country from the great organized enemy thereof, the liquor traffic, as heroically as heroines of earlier days toiled and sacrificed for the freedom of this land.

At this meeting Mrs. H. H. Forest, so long the able editor of the State paper, resigned, and the paper was placed in charge of Mrs. Annabel Holvey, a woman of large experience in newspaper work, and who is also a ready, brilliant and logical speaker.

We missed at this convention the earnest voice and familiar face of Mrs. Rhoads, who, for seven years had been the efficient and successful leader of the "Young Women's Work." Miss A. Elizabeth Thomas, her successor, said in her excellent report, that "this work lay very near the heart of Mrs. Rhoads, and her long experience left little oppor-



MRS. EVELYN R. HUSTON  
Supt. Temperance Light Bearers





tunity to improve upon her methods ;” and she might have added with great truth, that Mrs. Rhoads was very near to the hearts of the five thousand young women of Pennsylvania, whose work had been so systematized and successful under her generalship.

Mrs. Rhoads is a forceful character, much more so than her frail physique would indicate, and this was the secret of her wise and thorough methods of work, that made this branch of our W. C. T. U. so great a power in the State.

The Loyal Temperance Legion is another branch of our W. C. T. U., that under Mrs. Elma Preston’s guidance had this year made rapid advance. We may well say of all the reports that they showed progress, and that busy superintendents in local, county and state unions, had been making strong inroads everywhere upon the strongholds of our forceful enemy, the liquor traffic.

Miss Jennie Mitchell was winning her brothers and sisters, and the *children* of the colored people into our ranks.

Miss Puella Dornblazer, Superintendent of work among miners and foreign speaking people, always has an inspiring report, and is so identified with this work, that she seems herself a part of it. Her optimistic views always seem to characterize her as a prophetess of good things to come to this nation through the evangelization of those who are flocking to our shores from all lands. She truthfully says, “He that scatters the truth as taught in God’s word, over this land, to all purposes will be saving our own property, saving the lives and morals of our own children, and saving the honor, perhaps the very existence of our country.”

Mary F. Ross, in the report of the health and physical culture department, said with reference to a bill requiring

physical training in our public schools, "although this bill was not incorporated in our school laws, our efforts were not wholly wasted."

A Senator wrote me, "You are ten years ahead of your times, keep at it, and it is sure to come." This principle of "keep at it," is the backbone of our W. C. T. U. work, the secret of our success.

A recently adopted department, was that of our State Industries, of which Mrs. Ellen W. Palmer was appointed Superintendent. At Pittsburg the year before, Mrs. Palmer had made an eloquent plea for oppressed wage earners, especially for the children employed in mines, stores, and factories, who seemed to have no childhood. A department of State Industries Reform was added to our list.

At Williamsport, in her report, she referred to the formation of a "Boys' Industrial Association at Wilkesbarre, which had proved very successful," and Mrs. Palmer recommended "that schools for hand-craft should be established in every city, for the benefit of those whose environments make it impossible for them to seek their own advancement."

The B. I. A. under Mrs. Palmer's direction, has achieved signal success, and although not under W. C. T. U. management, is doing a grand temperance work.

Mrs. Mary F. Lovell, who had so long and successfully carried our Scientific Instruction in Public Schools on her heart, at this convention resigned the work. Mrs. Lovell had peculiar fitness for this work, and to her we largely owe the influence and power, that this great plan has achieved. Accurate, persistent, winning, Mrs. Lovell proved that she was the right woman in the right place.

Mrs. Abby Rhoads, of Westtown, was appointed her

successor. The Sunday School Department is coeval with the existence of our State W. C. T. U., and has had only two Superintendents, Mrs. H. S. Ellis and Mrs. Fannie D. B. Chase. The latter in her report said, "We believe we have only to persevere, and the children of to-day will settle the question of the liquor traffic and its evils to-morrow."

The report of the Literature work, under Mrs. L. S. Burns, was most encouraging. The printed page is widely sown every year in this State.

Press work is one of our most potent forces. It had been extending grandly under Mrs. A. Holvey's care. "Two hundred and twenty-nine newspapers in the State publish our matter without charge, and in some instances pay for articles."

Teaching in the Mercy Department had been securing immunity from unnecessary suffering to God's dumb creatures, and bands organized in many counties under Jennie Best.

Mrs. E. K. Bushong, with pen, and gifts of speech added to strong personal effort, had been trying to lift a little the cloud of smoke and narcotics settling so darkly over our American people. "In two years one billion of cigarettes made for our boys from *five to ten!*" What *can* a few women do to clear away this sickening cloud of poison vapor?

Mrs. Bushong is brave to try; but she will sometime reap her reward.

Mrs. Clements, of the Evangelistic work, is always helpful in our meetings, and keeps the thought of her work for Bible truth ever before her counties.

"Inasmuch as ye has done it unto these, the least of my brethren, ye have done it unto me," is the basis of a work that has been wonderfully blessed of God. This year had done good work under the supervision of Mrs. Gormly, of

Pittsburg, who for five years had been with her local Superintendents endeavoring to cheer, bless and win to Christ the unfortunate prisoners in our jails and reformatories, and cheer and help our brothers and sisters, dear to our loving Christ, in the almshouses of our State, showed by her report, that she had studied her field well and cared for its interests most faithfully.

Mrs. E. D. C. Mair's report of Railroad work is so good that we would gladly transfer the whole of it to these pages, if space permitted, as a pregnant chapter of history worthy of preservation.

Miss Heiner's work for Soldiers and Sailors is one that enlists our sympathies, and her report shows that the counties had responded well to her efforts.

Ellen H. Lacy enlisted the White Ribbon Women in the work of sending good reading to the lumber camps of the State. From thirty-two counties over a ton of reading matter to these camps had been sent, consisting of Bibles, Testaments, gospel songs, over twelve thousand papers and ournals, religious papers of every denomination, as well as choice magazines.

Mrs. Boyer's report showed that the custom of using alcoholic wine at Communion was falling into disuse in the churches, and unfermented fruit of the vine being substituted.

Mother's Meetings, under Mrs. E. L. Stephen's able leading, were greatly increasing in numbers and influence.

Mrs. George had been enlisting our people in a Crusade for Sabbath Observance, and her busy helpers throughout the State had not been idle.

Mrs. Vaughn had rallied the mothers to parlor conferences upon home and the training of children. Her report



MRS. W. I. BLACKMAN  
Supt. Department of Mercy



is of faithful continuance in well doing and of decided progress.

Mrs. Margaret Hill had been keeping watch over our County and State Fairs, as good centres from which to send out our excellent literature, as well as to keep out the beer nuisance.

Had it counted anything that Hannah G. Pickering had taken up a little Mission of Flowers for her special White Ribbon work? Let the 525 sick persons who have been cheered by a White Ribbon woman, the poor visited, the men and women converted, attest; the loans of linen, the help rendered; the sick poor that have had a chance given them to enjoy the sunshine in carriages; the relief to many a weary soul in our State Institutions, when the monotony is broken by a visitor bringing flowers and God's word. Ah! as she marshals her hosts for this work, may she well feel that her "tabulated reports do not represent the whole of Flower Mission work, for the vital principle of Christian love, exemplified in these tender acts, cannot be expressed in figures."

Mrs. Bryce reported that franchise work was rapidly advancing.

Mrs. Amies reported improvement and growing interest in Schools of Methods, where our workers are being trained to do their *work well*.

We gather up a little list of these reports, that at this point, we may understand our progress and the steady work being done.

The election of officers placed Mrs. Rebecca B. Chambers, of Chester County, at the head, as President, and Mrs. Irwin, of Pittsburg, at her side as Vice-President-at-large.

With these changes in our central Committee we felt we were well officered for a grand campaign.

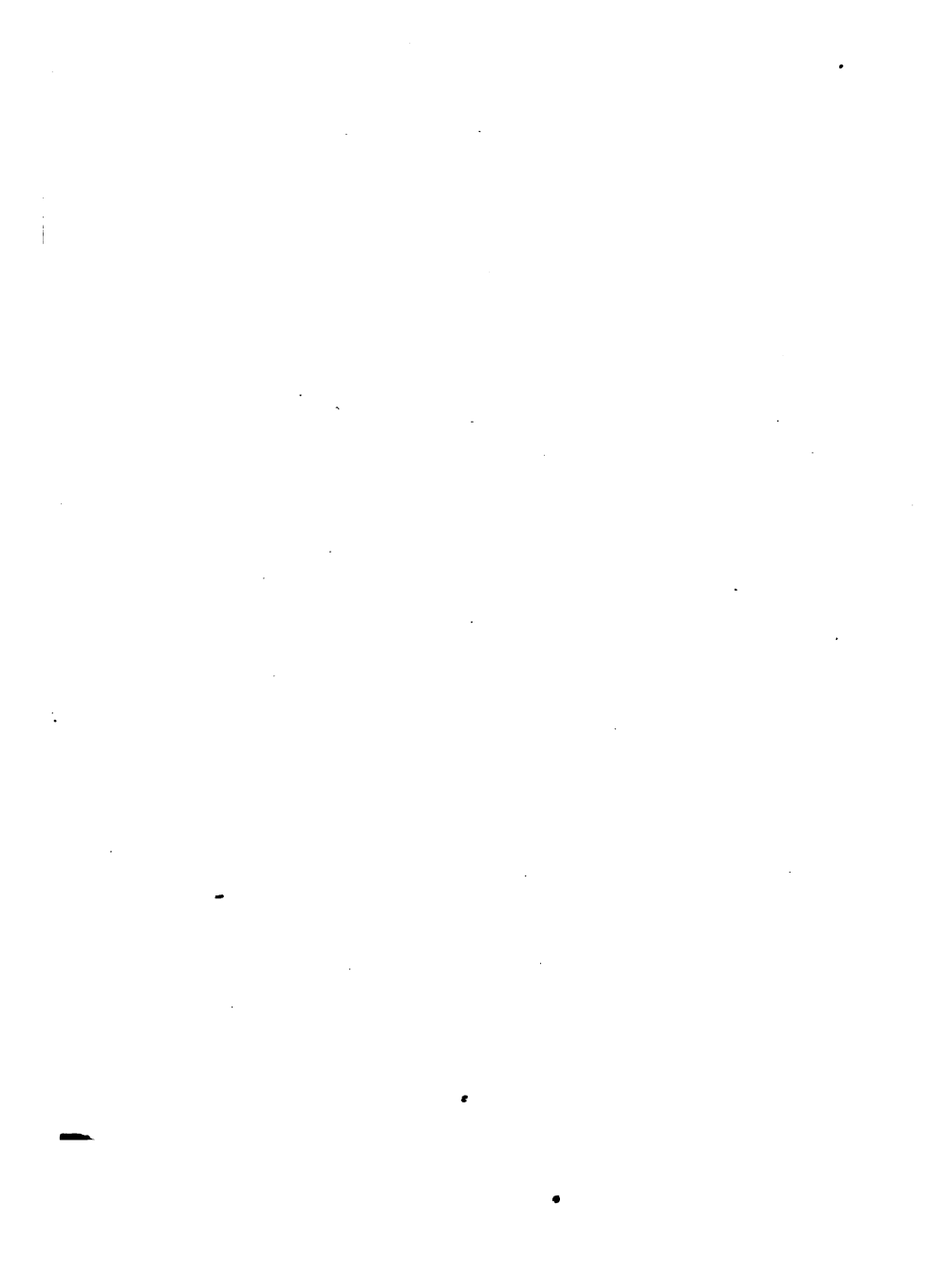
in her veins, for she was the daughter of an humble farmer and in her girlhood she roamed the fields barefooted, climbed the trees, jumped the fences, and drove the cows and fed the pigs and chickens on her father's farm near Janesville, in our own State of Wisconsin. It is not because of the greatness of her intellect, for although she possessed a mind of wonderful brilliancy and power, other women have lived who have been intellectually endowed even more generously than she was and yet no such universal sorrow and regret followed their death. It is not because of her superior education and high culture, for although she was highly favored in this respect, being one of the best educated women of her age, other women have surpassed her in learning and culture, and yet their death created no such sensation as has been created by the death of Frances Willard. It is not because of her ability as a writer, although the books she has written entitle her to a high place among authors, for other women have written books that have attracted far more attention than anything she ever wrote, yet their death was not mourned as has been the death of Frances Willard. It is not because of her great eloquence, for while she was one of the most eloquent and impressive speakers of the age in which she lived, there have been other women of almost equal power as orators who have passed away without any such demonstration of sorrow as has been called forth by the death of Miss Willard.

“The world pays its homage to her because of her noble Christian character—because of her unselfish devotion to the welfare of her fellow-beings—because of her entire consecration of all the powers of her body and her mind—her education, her eloquence, everything, even life itself that she might be a blessing to the world.”





MRS. H. H. GEORGE  
Supt. National Reform



## CHAPTER XXV.

READING CONVENTION, 1898. REVIEW OF RESULTS.

## CONCLUSION.

Reading is an old and conservative city, but the W. C. T. U. has found a strong and permanent foot-hold there, strong enough to invite our State Convention to meet for a week in one of its largest churches.

Old time hospitality was charmingly bestowed upon the hundreds of delegates that came up from the State.

The Committee having in charge the arrangements for this gathering, proved their executive training by making all guests comfortable, with a dispatch seldom equalled.

When we reached the large Presbyterian Church, where our session was held, we found it beautifully decorated with State banners, flowers and palms—with red, white and blue Sunday School pledge cards, bearing the signatures of thousands of our Sunday School boys and girls, wreathed nearly three times around the spacious walls, and all disposed with artistic skill most attractive.

It was a blessing to be there, and to be a part of this notable gathering.

Mrs. Chambers presided for the first time. Her address evidenced a careful, practical study of all our departments.

Her work in the Executive Committee and throughout the Convention was well prepared and efficient, showing that our President had a "mind to the work and did it well."

Mrs. Chambers brought to this work a strong and fervent love for it, acquired in her young womanhood from her mother, who had a part in the Crusade; and also more than ordinary executive ability. Forceful in character, buoyant

and hopeful in spirit, a woman of decision and determination, the women of Pennsylvania safely trusted in her, and were not disappointed.

Throwing the full force of her energies into the field, the year had been progressive. Every department had felt the impulse of her ready and sympathetic help, had taken new courage.

The showing of the year was one of advance, each report seeming better than the other, as read to us by faithful superintendents.

The *Bulletin*, our State paper, had a sound financial basis, and had prospered under Mrs. Holvey's care. It was thought best to place the paper editorially, in the hands of the Central Committee, Mrs. Chambers as Editor-in-Chief, Mrs. Holvey as publisher. A still greater prosperity was hoped for under the new arrangement.

Sunday was a busy day, pulpits and halls being occupied throughout the city by white ribbon speakers.

On Sunday afternoon at 4 P. M., the "Children's Meeting," under the auspices of the State W. C. T. U., and conducted by Mrs. Chase and Mrs. Preston, as superintendents of Sunday-school and L. T. L. departments, was a point of interest and success.

The children gathered in such numbers that the body of the large Presbyterian Church was filled, and many could not get in and were obliged to go away. The local committee, Mrs. Miller in the Sunday-schools and Mrs. Monyer in the L. T. L., had done their work of invitation so thoroughly, that this was one of the most inspiring gatherings of the Convention. Nothing seemed to be lacking.

The presence of the general Secretary of our State

Sunday-school Association, who was one of our speakers, the presence of our own State officers on the platform, the singing of the children, the ready crayon illustrations of Miss M. Wintringer of Chicago, Editor of the "Young Crusader," conspired to make a meeting of unusual interest and power.

At the close of this Convention we entered upon our twenty-fifth year, our "Jubilee year," and all hearts turned lovingly and with tender anticipations towards the celebration of our Silver Wedding.

Accepting the cordial invitation of Philadelphia County, voiced by their County President, Harriet French, M. D., who with cordial and witty words invited us to hold our Jubilee Celebration in the City of Philadelphia, our birth-place, claiming that "even the chickens were ready to die for our coming," and declaring that a royal welcome awaited us ; of this we had not a doubt.

We shall go up to our Alma Mater with glad hearts, and tender memories of earlier times and experiences.

The preparation of these Historical sketches has been a labor of love, and we feel they do not do justice to the great work of these twenty-five years. There have been such heroic sacrifices, such expenditures of time, money and self on the part of the women of Pennsylvania, that gathered up, would fill many volumes ; and now as we stand on the heights of this Jubilee year, and ask what has all this accomplished, we can only praise God at the work He has wrought.

The early thought of our W. C. T. U., has ripened into successful action.

Our departments, taken up one by one, have steadily changed the thought of the people, and opened eyes and hearts to needs in fields not before thought of.

There has not been a year in which forceful thoughts and plans have not changed the current of popular sentiment, more or less, regarding the evils of a licensed liquor traffic, and the cause of alcoholic drinks generally.

We have accomplished far more than we dreamed of at first. Our many departments have sown the seed of new efforts, and developed many lines of work, unthought of at first. Good laws have been placed upon our statute-books, we have temperance lessons in the Sunday-school International series, studied and taught the world over. We have good state and county papers belonging to W. C. T. Unions, and many columns in many papers besides, exploiting our work.

The children of the State are taught the effects upon the body of alcoholic stimulants, and learn the construction and proper use and care of the body. Those who were children at the beginning of our work, are now men and women in the stress of business and religious activities.

Mrs. Wittenmyer, in urging the work among the young, used to say in early days, "In eight years these boys will be voters." Three times eight years have passed, and many of those boys and girls are noble temperance workers in our State. Young boys that were in our juvenile temperance ranks, are to-day staunch advocates of our cause.

The young men who met us at the station at Reading, and who so carefully attended to our comfort until settled in our convention homes, were trained in the L. T. L., and were thoroughly in sympathy with the temperance reform.

We think with sorrow of the many temperance societies formed during our march towards this year, whose leaders became discouraged and gave up their work among the

young, which would have been training and giving to the State strong workers for the present hour.

The thousands of children trained in the Sunday-school and L. T. L. are ready to listen, ready to help.

It is true that we are losing our hold on future values, when we fail to teach and train our youth in the principles we would have them advocate by and by.

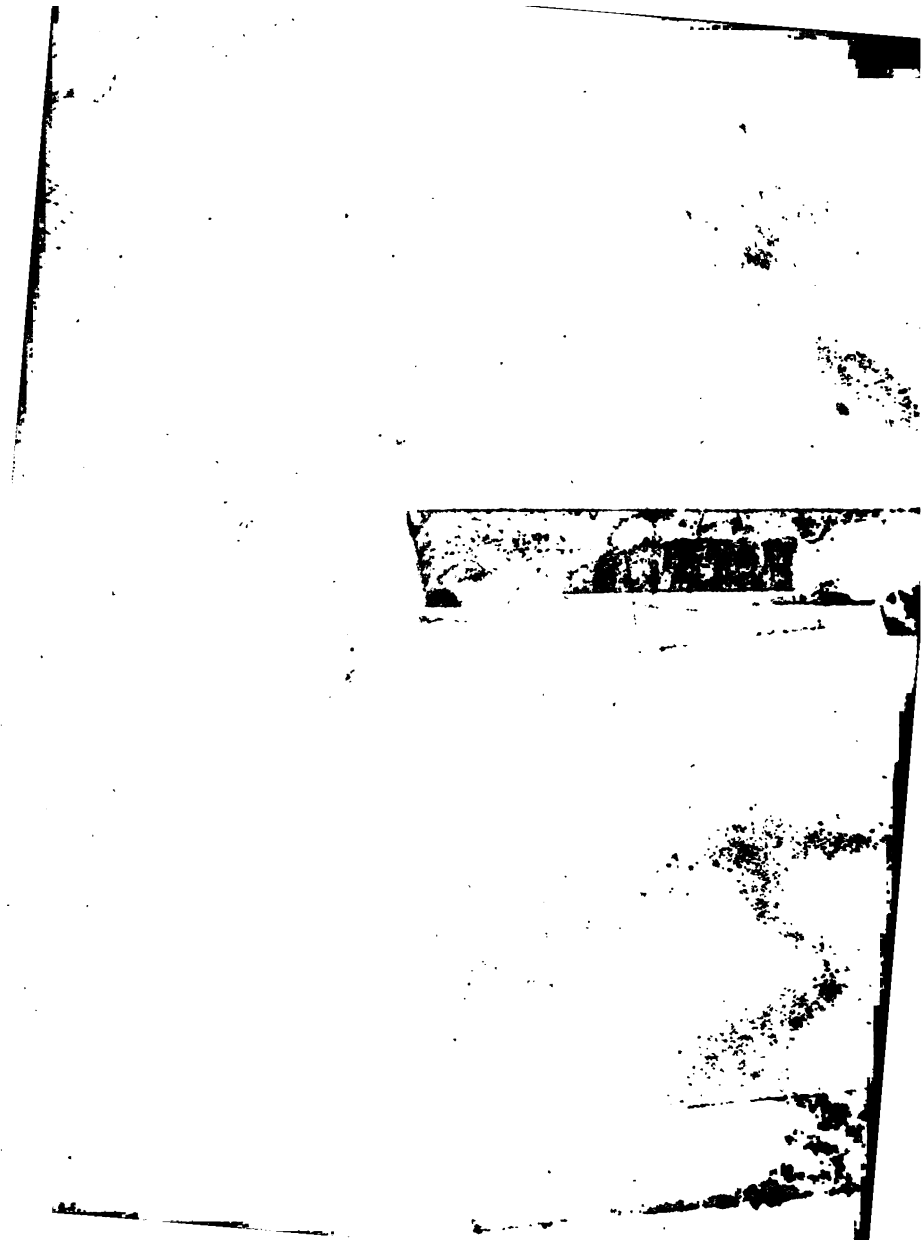
We have fifteen thousand W. C. T. U. women in the field, and an army of five thousand Y.'s who supplement their mothers in this glorious work for Home, and are in it because "mother" is or was.

We are no longer in doubt about our standing, but know that our plans are approved, our devotion recognized.

Prayer and consecration to service are our grand and solid bases, and we seek no other. Under our banner, "For God and Home and every Land," we expect victory, and every year we see it coming more and more.

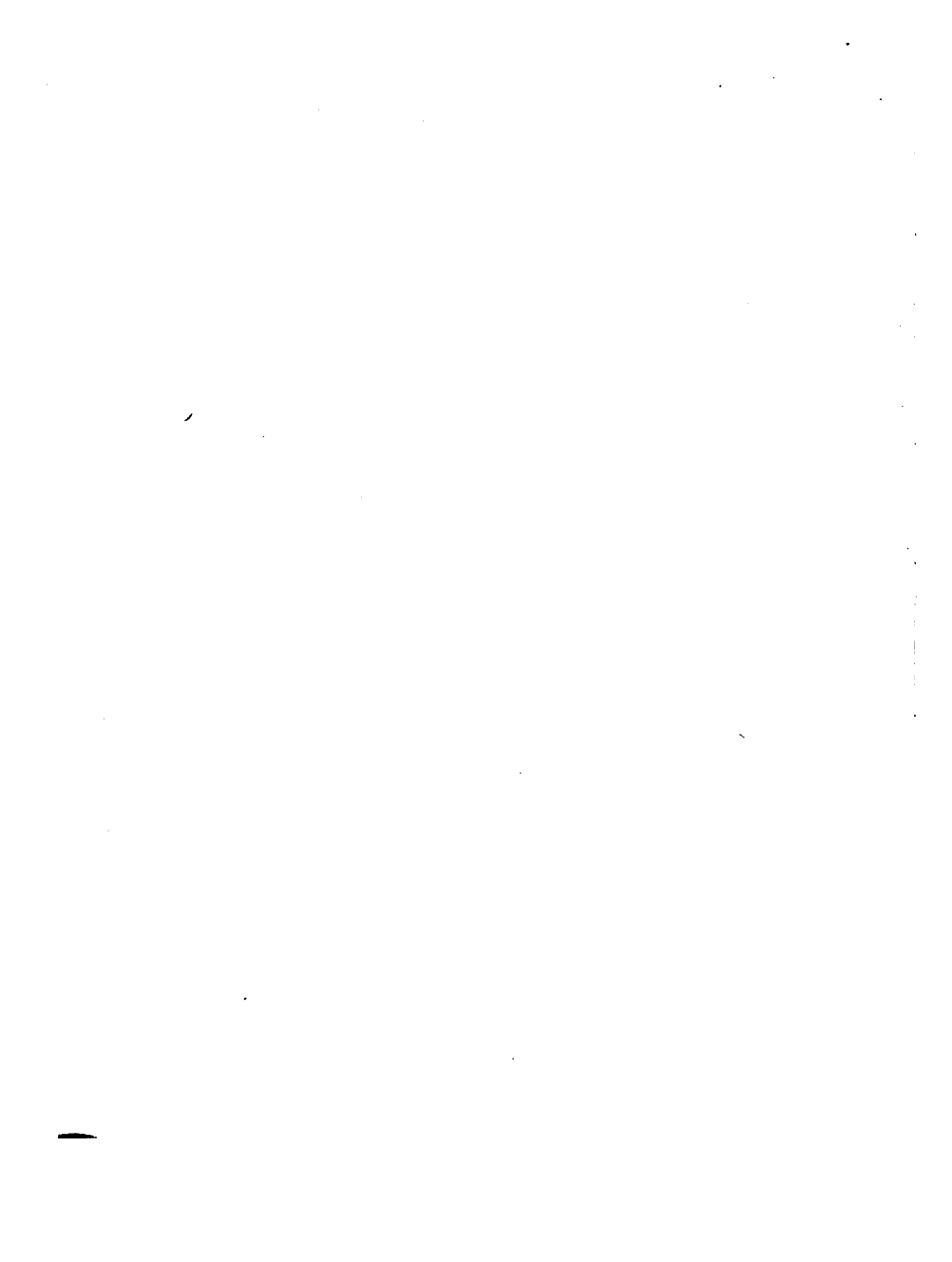
"For lo! the days are hastening on,  
By prophet bard foretold,  
When, with the ever-rolling years,  
Comes back the age of gold."

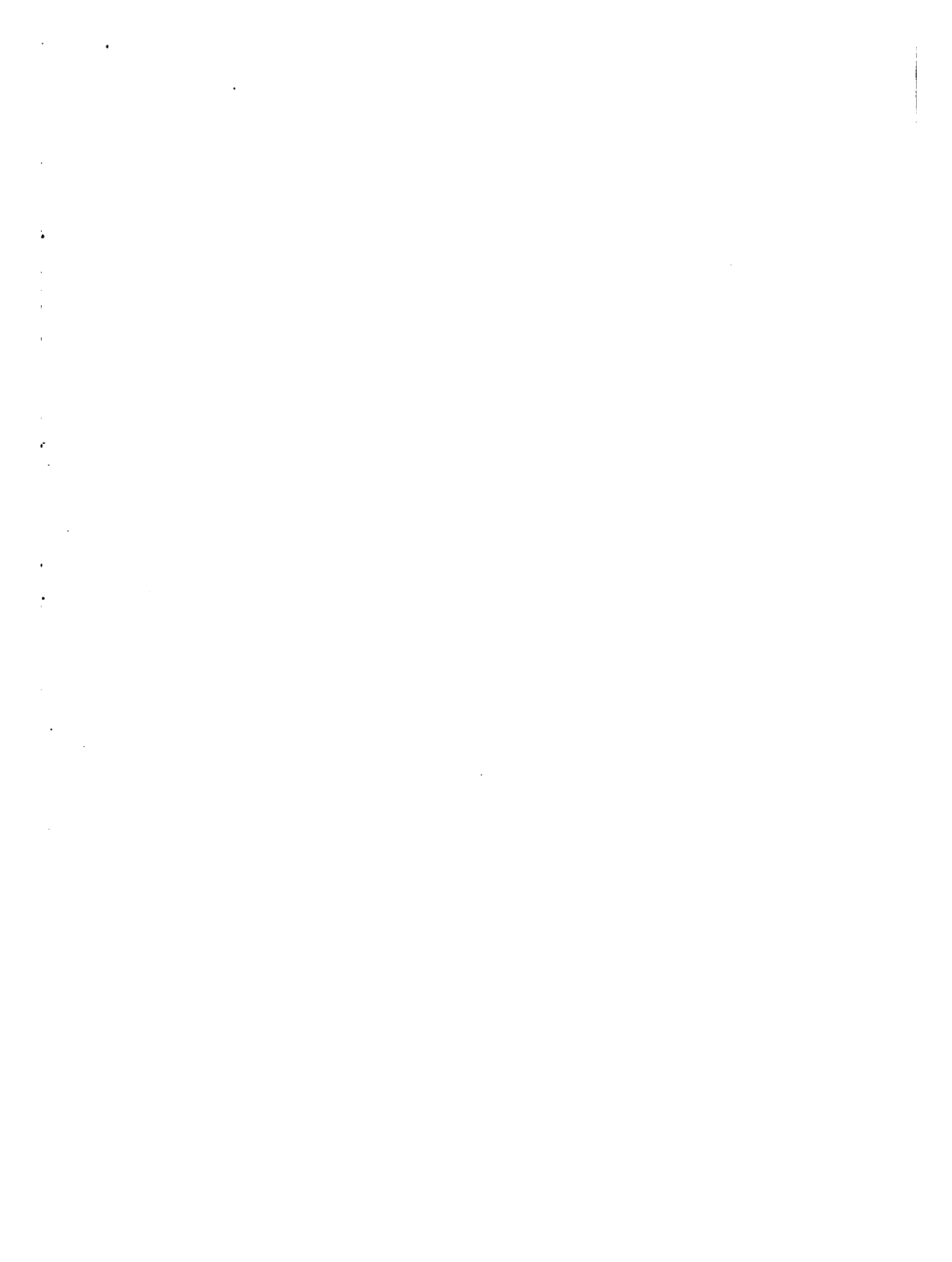
"When peace shall over all the earth,  
Her final splendors fling,  
And the whole world send back the song,  
Which now the angels sing."













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Chase

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Glimpses of a popular  
movement

DATE

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